



Legislative and Nominating Committee Minutes

January 11, 2022

The January 11, 2022 Legislative Committee meeting was called to order by Chair April Fournier at 8:00 AM on Zoom.

Councilor April Fournier (Chair), Mayor Kate Snyder, Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Kathy Jones (City Clerk), Sheba Brown (Executive Office Manager), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), and Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur) were present. Councilor Ali joined the meeting at 8:13 AM.

Mayor Snyder made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 4, 2021 meeting, seconded by Chair Fournier, vote (2-0).

The Committee discussed LD 1771, Rep. Zager's advisory panel on genetic information. Mayor Snyder, Chair Fournier, and Mayor Snyder made a motion to approve the draft testimony on behalf of LD 1771, seconded by Chair Fournier, vote (2-0).

The Committee discussed LD 1879, an act to support law enforcement officers, corrections officers, 911 Dispatchers, firefighters and Emergency Medical Services persons diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, sponsored by Representative Sylvester and which would repeal a provision of the law that would repeal the rebuttable presumption that the diagnosis stemmed from that work. The committee decided to track this legislation closely going forward.

The Committee discussed LD 1899, an act to ensure safe entry and access for people seeking medical care and other constitutional rights, which is co-sponsored by Representative Rachel Talbot Ross. This legislation would establish a medical safety zone around buildings where people receive medical services and makes blocking or violating access a class D crime. The committee requested additional information, and postponed voting until additional background information was received.

Kathy Jones highlighted LD 1821, which would make attacks on election officials a class C crime, LD 1658, which would make changes to campaign finance rules and would result in municipalities with populations over 35,000 to have the State elections commission handle campaign finance reports. Kathy Jones also highlighted that the Omnibus bill LD 1830 adds Federally recognized Indian Tribe identification cards as valid identification for voting purposes.

Councilor Fournier asked for workplan updates to be submitted in advance of voting to approve the work plan at the next Legislative Committee meeting.

Chair Fournier introduced the recent housing report, which has generated significant discussion, and legislation is expected to come out of the report's findings. Councilor Ali asked that the Executive department provide feedback detailing how housing legislation may impact housing availability in the City of Portland.

Councilor Ali made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 AM, seconded by Mayor Snyder, vote (3-0).