

**Legislative Committee & Portland
Delegation Agenda
February 15, 2022**



MEMBERS
Councilor April Fournier, Chair
Mayor Kate Snyder
Councilor Pious Ali

ZOOM INFORMATION:

This meeting will take place remotely using Zoom.

This meeting will be held remotely pursuant to the Remote Meeting Policy adopted by the Legislative & Nominating Committee and as authorized under 1 M.R.S. 403-B because of the existence of an emergency or urgent issue that requires the committee to meet by remote methods. Allow your computer to install the free Zoom app to get the best meeting experience. If you are not able to attend live, a recording will be available following the meeting.

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.

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II. Call to Order & Introductions (2 minutes)

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes (1 minute)

- a. Minutes from the meeting of February 1, 2022

IV. Discussion: Resettlement of Asylum Seekers (20 minutes)

- a. Staff Summary Memo (Kristen Dow, Director of Health & Human Services)
- b. Recap of Portland Delegation Update (February 8, 2022)

V. Review of Legislation

- a. LD 1879 (An Act To Support Law Enforcement Officers, Corrections Officers, E-9-1-1 Dispatchers, Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Persons Diagnosed with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder)
 - i. *This item was voted out of the Committee on Labor and Housing on February 7, 2022.*
- b. LD 1626 (An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act)
 - i. *Councilor Fournier requested a discussion of this bill among Committee members and the bill sponsor, Representative Talbot Ross, in light of a public hearing scheduled for February 15, 2022.*
- c. LD 969 (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)
 - i. *If available, Committee members would like additional insight from bill sponsors regarding the practical implications of LD 969, including job creation, operational responsibilities, etc. to inform their potential support.*
- d. LD 1337 (An Act To Increase Affordable Housing and Reduce Property Taxes through an Impact Fee on Vacant Residences)
 - i. *This LD was originally reviewed by the Legislative & Nominating Committee in April 2021. At that time, the primary concern of staff was that the State would be implementing and administering this program. Staff believed that the program should be implemented at the discretion of local municipalities, with revenue staying in the community. The LD has since been amended and is enclosed for Committee members' review and discussion. On February 3, 2022, the Taxation Committee advanced the bill to the full Legislature (8-4).*