

To: MMA's Legislative Policy Committee
Fr: Justin Poirier, Chair
Re: Notice and Agenda for the January 30, 2025 LPC Orientation & Regular Meeting
Date: January 23, 2025

The next meeting of the Legislative Policy Committee is scheduled for:

Thursday, January 30, 2025
9:30 a.m. – LPC Orientation
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting
Maine Municipal Association

Zoom Option Available:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84027016286?pwd=Bc5XWBvVtX3HRhUq2OaeI5qrTiC0I4.1>

It is my pleasure to convene the Legislative Policy Committee for its first meeting of 2025. While staff will do their best to provide materials well in advance of the meeting, considering the unprecedented January 10 cloture date, it is likely that one or more supplemental agendas will be issued before next Thursday. Our goal is to get as much work as possible done to ensure staff have the information necessary to navigate the beginning of the session, without relying on impromptu Zoom meetings and position surveys.

While the start time for the meeting is 10 a.m., at 9:30 a.m. staff will conduct an orientation session. Participation is voluntary and open to both new and seasoned members. The purpose of the pre-meeting is to provide an overview of the work that will take place during our meetings and the process for establishing MMA's official positions on proposed initiatives.

Although members may participate via Zoom, to the extent possible I encourage in-person participation, as the quality of our discussions are greatly improved when we are all in the same room. If you cannot attend in person and plan to participate remotely, please let Laura Ellis know by noon on Monday, January 27, as adjustments will need to be made to lunch and material counts.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday to kick off the 2025 session. If you have questions about the meeting or materials, please do not hesitate to contact Kate Dufour at kdufour@memun.org or Laura Ellis at lellis@memun.org.

Thank you for participating in these meetings. The feedback you provide is invaluable to the association's advocacy efforts.

Agenda

- I. **LPC Orientation (9:30 a.m.)**
- II. **Welcome & Introduction (10:00 a.m.)**
- III. **Housekeeping**
 - a. **Attendance**
 - b. **2025 meeting dates**
 - i. Thursday, February 27
 - ii. Thursday, March 20
 - iii. Wednesday, April 16
 - iv. Thursday, May 22
- IV. **MMA platform bills printed**
 - a. [LD 185](#) *An Act to Expand Opportunities to Invest Municipal Tax Increment Financing Revenues* (Sponsored by Rep. Mastraccio of Sanford)
- V. **Proposed legislation.** A summary description of each bill subject to LPC review is provided in MMA’s “2025 LD List” ([Attachment #1](#)). The bills are hyperlinked both on the LD List and below under each subcommittee, as opposed to sending the bills separately.
 - a. **Rebecca Graham** will provide information for full LPC consideration on the following legislative initiatives.
 - i. **Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry-related legislation.**
 - 1. [LD 124](#) *An Act to Protect the Right to Food*
 - 2. [LD 133](#) *An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Nuisance Dogs*
 - 3. [LD 183](#) *An Act to Cap Publicly Owned Land Area at No More than 50 Percent of Any County*
 - ii. **Criminal Justice & Public Safety-related legislation.**
 - 1. [LD 96](#) *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles and Traffic Law Governing Mandatory Driver's License Suspension for Refusing Testing for Drugs or a Combination of Drugs and Alcohol*
 - 2. [LD 102](#) *An Act to Notify the Public of Juveniles Who Are Wanted Persons*
 - 3. [LD 245](#) *An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State*
 - iii. **Health & Human Services-related legislation.**

1. [LD 35](#) *An Act to Strengthen Local Emergency Medical Services by Increasing the MaineCare Reimbursement Rate for Ambulance Services*
- iv. **Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 123](#) *An Act Regarding Licensure of Emergency Medical Services Persons*
 - v. **Housing & Economic Development-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 1](#) *An Act to Increase Storm Preparedness for Maine's Communities, Homes and Infrastructure*
 2. [LD 128](#) *An Act to Support Permitting of Certain Multifamily Housing Developments Under the Site Location of Development Laws*
 3. [LD 161](#) *Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Convene a Stakeholder Group Tasked with a Comprehensive Overhaul and Modernization of the State Subdivision Laws*
 - vi. **Judiciary-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 132](#) *Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Constitution of Maine*
 - vii. **Transportation-related legislation.**
 1. No LD #1 [Part A](#) & [Language](#) Governor's Biennial Highway Budget
 2. [LD 2](#) *An Act to Allow Military Vehicles Purchased for Civilian Use to Be Registered and Operated on Maine Roads*
 3. [LD 115](#) *An Act to Assess Impact Fees on Megayachts*
 4. [LD 154](#) *An Act to Amend the Transportation Laws*
 5. [LD 159](#) *An Act to Require Vehicle Registrations to Include the Next of Kin of the Vehicle Owner*
 6. [LD 164](#) *An Act to Exempt Authorized Emergency Vehicles from Tolls When Operating in an Official Capacity*
- b. Amanda Campbell** will provide information for full LPC consideration on the following legislative initiatives.
- i. **Environment & Natural Resources-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 62](#) *An Act to Support Municipal and County Actions on Dam Ownership*
 2. [LD 138](#) *An Act to Exempt Airports from Certain State Endangered and Threatened Species Habitat Protections*

3. [LD 222](#) *An Act to Establish a Take-back and Disposal Program for Firefighting and Fire-suppressing Foam to Which Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Have Been Added*
- ii. **Health & Human Services-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 110](#) *An Act to Require Reporting on the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds by Certain Municipalities and County Governments*
 2. [LD 215](#) *An Act to Establish a Program to Assist Residents of Large Recovery Residences*
 3. [LD 219](#) *An Act to Limit Hypodermic Apparatus Exchange Programs to a One-for-one Exchange*
 - iii. **Inland Fisheries & Wildlife-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 173](#) *An Act to Exempt Certain Watercraft from Registration Requirements*
 - iv. **Labor-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 60](#) *An Act to Allow Employees to Request Flexible Work Schedules*
 2. [LD 61](#) *An Act to Regulate Employer Surveillance to Protect Workers*
 3. [LD 82](#) *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Laws by Extending Indefinitely the Presumption Applying to Law Enforcement Officers, Corrections Officers, E-9-1-1 Dispatchers, Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Persons Diagnosed with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder*
 - v. **Taxation-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 7](#) *An Act to Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption for Residents 65 Years of Age or Older*
 2. [LD 15](#) *An Act to Eliminate the Excise Tax on Camper Trailers*
 3. [LD 68](#) *An Act to Amend the State Tax Laws*
 4. [LD 140](#) *An Act to Incrementally Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption*
 5. [LD 223](#) *An Act to Amend the Mining Excise Tax Laws*
 6. [LD 225](#) *An Act to Reduce Property Taxes and Finance Public School Construction and Education Through a 3 Percent Sales Tax on Hotel and Lodging Place Rentals*
 7. [LD 237](#) *An Act to Increase the Percentage of Funds Provided to Municipalities Through State-Municipal Revenue Sharing*

c. **Rebecca Lambert** will provide information for full LPC consideration on the following legislative initiatives.

i. **Education & Cultural Affairs-related legislation.**

1. [LD 34](#) *An Act to Increase the Minimum Salary for Teachers*
2. [LD 71](#) *An Act Regarding Special Education Funding*

ii. **Judiciary-related legislation.**

1. [LD 83](#) *An Act Concerning the Filing of Marriage Licenses and the Recording of Intentions as Part of the Electronic Vital Records System*
[LD 152](#) *An Act to Amend the Freedom of Access Act to Require a Specific Time Frame for Agencies to Comply with Requests for Public Records*

iii. **State & Local Government-related legislation.**

1. [LD 50](#) *An Act to Provide the Right of First Refusal to Towns in Which the University of Maine System and Similar Quasi-independent State Entities Are Selling Property*
2. [LD 53](#) *An Act to Establish the November General Election Day as a State Holiday*
3. [LD 119](#) *An Act to Include the Declaration of an Emergency by the President of the United States as a Basis to Allow the Governor to Provide Disaster Relief to Local Government*
4. [LD 247](#) *An Act Regarding Recommendations for Changing Place Names in the State*

iv. **Veterans & Legal Affairs-related legislation.**

1. [LD 13](#) *An Act to Provide Funds Necessary for the Production and Delivery of Election Materials by the Secretary of State and to Reconvene the Working Group to Study Polling Places at Schools*
2. [LD 38](#) *An Act Requiring Photographic Identification for Voting*
3. [LD 158](#) *An Act to Direct the Secretary of State to Establish a Date Each Year for Voting by Absentee Ballot*
4. [LD 177](#) *An Act to Create Municipal Cannabis Revenue Sharing*
5. [LD 199](#) *An Act to Change the Limits on Candidates' Communications with Voters at the Polls*

d. **Kate Dufour** will provide information for full LPC consideration on the following legislative initiatives.

i. **Appropriations & Financial Affairs-related legislation.**

1. LD 209 – Governor’s Supplemental Budget: [Part S](#).

2. LD 210 – Governor’s Biennial Budget: Part A, Language
 - a. **Homestead Exemption Reimbursement** (Page A-27).
 - b. **County Jail Operations** (Pages A-149).
 - c. **General Assistance** (Page A-330).
 - d. **Part D - Maine Office of Community Affairs** (Pages 6-42).
 - e. **Part F – Cannabis Excise Tax** (Pages 44-46).
 - f. **Part TT – Ambulance Provider Tax** (Pages 91-93).
 - g. **Part VV – SNAP & TANF Benefits** (Page 103-104).
 - h. **PART NNN – Fishing License Fee Increase** (Pages 113-114).
 - i. **Part VVV – Concealed Handgun Permit Fee Increase** (Pages 122-123).
 - j. **Part YYY – Workers’ Compensation Board Administrative Fund** (Page 125).

ii. **Requests for LPC Review**

1. No LD Bill *An Act to Allow Municipalities to Prohibit Firearms within Municipal Buildings and at Municipal Public Proceedings and Voting Places*
2. Memo from Maine Indoor Air Quality Council

VI. LPC Comprehensive Tax Reform Working Group Update. Amanda Campbell and Kate Dufour will provide an update on the working group’s December 17, 2024 and January 21, 2025 meetings. (Attachment #2)

- i. LPC Feedback on Working Group’s Objectives

VII. Adjourn