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To: MMA's Legislative Policy Committee

Justin Poirier, Chair

Fr: Kate Dufour, Director, Advocacy & Communications

Re: Weekly LD List Preview, February Meeting Votes & March 4 Poll Results

Date: March 7, 2025

It is your favorite day of the week...LD List Preview Friday. In this missive, you'll find:

- **LD List Preview.** Descriptions of the several bills of municipal interest that have been printed since last February 28, which can be found <u>here</u>. The LPC will have the opportunity to discuss these bills on Thursday, March 20.
- **Positions Established in February.** Positions on the bills the LPC established prior to and during the February meeting, which are found here. Again, kudos for your endurance and the great work.
- **Survey Says.** The results of March 4 poll, which are linked here. While we did not get a quorum on this poll, the feedback provided will inform the advocacy team's "tentative" testimony. However, the LPC will be asked to officially establish position on these bills at the March 20 meeting. As a reminder, your ongoing participation in these surveys is critical and supports MMA's advocacy efforts. Alternates are encouraged to respond to polls as well, since the more feedback we get, the better our testimony will be.
- One More Survey. Finally, two bills, described below, are scheduled for public hearings before the March 20 LPC meeting. Please complete and return this mini survey by noon on Tuesday, March 11.

If you have any questions about these materials, please do not hesitate to contact me at kdufour@memun.org.

Thank you.

March 7 Poll

<u>LD 873</u> *An Act to Expand Municipal Authority over Utility Pole Permits* (Sponsored by Rep. Abdi of Lewiston)

This bill increases the number of municipalities authorized to revoke the location of a utility pole when required for public safety and welfare by reducing the population threshold from 40,000 to 30,000.

On LD 873, MMA should:

• Support the bill.

- Oppose the bill.
- Take a "neither for nor against" stand on the bill.
- Downgrade to a track position.
- Take no position on the bill.

Please provide the reasons why you support the selected position.

LD 888 An Act to Expand Property Tax Relief for Veterans and Survivors of Veterans (Sponsored by Rep. Hymes of Waldo)

For property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2026, this bill provides that veterans are no longer required to have served during a federally recognized war period to receive the \$5,000 homestead exemption and: (1) increases to \$6,000 the exemption for veterans who are 62 years of age or older; (2) provides disabled veterans a service-connected disability rating based exemption of between \$10,000 and \$50,000; and (3) clarifies that a veteran's unremarried surviving spouse, minor child or parent remains eligible for the benefit.

On LD 888, MMA should:

- Support the bill.
- Oppose the bill.
- Take a "neither for nor against" stand on the bill.
- Downgrade to a track position.
- Take no position on the bill.

Please provide the reasons why you support the selected position.