



Maine Municipal Association

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To: MMA's Legislative Policy Committee
Fr: Christine Landes, Chair
Re: Notice and Agenda for January 31, 2019 LPC Meeting
Date: January 24, 2019

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

Thursday, January 31, 2019
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon: Subcommittees
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.: luncheon
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.: Business Meeting
Maine Municipal Association

The list of bill titles released by the Office of the Revisor earlier this month indicates that legislative committees will be processing over 2,000 bills throughout the first legislative session. To put the number of bills into context, during the 2017 and 2018 legislative sessions only 1,800 bills were printed. If history is any indicator, it is anticipated that the LPC will have the opportunity to take positions on roughly 500 bills over the next three or four months.

Of the 400 bills printed to date, 75 are presented in the accompanying agenda for the Policy Committee's review. Because bills are printed daily, it is highly probable that at next week's meeting the LPC will be asked to review additional bills presented in a supplemental agenda. Staff will do their best to provide you with advance notice of the bills; but it is possible a second supplemental agenda will be produced the morning of the meeting.

Thank you for your willingness to serve on the Policy Committee. I look forward to seeing you next Thursday.

Agenda

I. Housekeeping

- a. **Reminder of 2019 LPC meeting dates.** The following meeting dates were approved by the LPC at its inaugural August 22, 2018 meeting. Subcommittee work begins at 10:00 a.m. and the business meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. unless otherwise notified.
 - i. Thursday, January 31;
 - ii. Thursday, February 28;
 - iii. Thursday, March 28; and
 - iv. Thursday, April 25 (if necessary).

- b. **MMA Policy Platform Bills Printed – FYI**
 - i. LD 236, *An Act Regarding the Use of Unanticipated State Aid for Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education*, sponsored by Rep. Paul Stearns of Guilford.

 - ii. LD 335, *An Act To Require the State To Distribute 25 Percent of Adult Use Marijuana Retail Sales and Excise Tax Revenue to Generating Municipalities*, sponsored by Rep. Charlotte Warren of Hallowell.

II. Proposed legislation. A summary description of each bill subject to LPC review is provided in MMA’s “LD List 2019” (**Attachment #1**)

- a. **The LPC Subcommittee on Appropriations, Taxation & Education** will provide recommendations for full LPC consideration on the following legislative initiatives.
 - i. Appropriations & Financial Affairs-related legislation.
 1. Consent agenda items, if any.
 2. LD 47 – An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Fire Stations.
 3. LD 48 – An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless.
 4. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

ii. Education & Cultural Affairs-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 55 – An Act To Return the Normal Cost of Teacher Retirement to the State.
3. LD 63 – An Act To Improve Responsiveness of Elected School Boards to the Public.
4. LD 136 – An Act To Establish a Special Education Circuit Breaker Reimbursement Program.
5. LD 178 – An Act To Increase the State Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers.
6. LD 259 – An Act To Require the State To Meet the Mandatory 55 Percent Contribution to Schools.
7. LD 359 – An Act To Address Student Hunger with a “Breakfast after the Bell” Program.
8. LD 375 – An Act To Promote the Forest Products Industry in School Construction and Renovation Involving Heating Systems.
9. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iii. Health & Human Services-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 153 – An Act To Strengthen Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water.
3. LD 215 – An Act To Increase the Reimbursement Rate for Ambulance Service Paid by the Department of Corrections.

4. LD 266 – An Act To Eliminate the 2-year Limit on MaineCare Coverage for Approved Drugs for Opioid Use Disorder.
5. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iv. Taxation-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 35 – An Act To Exempt All Disabled Veterans in Maine from All Income Tax and To Increase Their Homestead Exemption to \$50,000.
3. LD 43 – RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Dedicate All Sales Taxes from All Vehicle Sales and Vehicle-related Sales to the Highway Fund for Roads and Bridge Capital Improvements.
4. LD 62 – An Act To Enhance the Senior Volunteer Benefit Program.
5. LD 65 – An Act To Allow Municipalities To Impose a Seasonal or Year-round Local Option Sales Tax.
6. LD 77 – An Act To Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption to \$50,000 for Persons 75 Years of Age and Older.
7. LD 118 – An Act To Direct Vehicle Excise Tax Revenue for Local Transportation Infrastructure.
8. LD 119 – An Act To Base the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax on the Sale Price.
9. LD 133 – An Act To Fully Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing for Fiscal Year 2018-19.
10. LD 146 – An Act To Make the Assessment and Collection of Personal Property Taxes Optional for Municipalities.

11. LD 156 – An Act To Allow Regional Service Center Municipalities To Assess an Additional One Percent Sales Tax for Infrastructure Costs.
12. LD 163 – An Act Regarding Property Tax Relief for Veterans.
13. LD 164 – An Act To Reduce Property Taxes for Maine Residents.
14. LD 193 – An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing.
15. LD 241 – An Act To Adjust the Personal Property Tax Exemption for Farm Machinery.
16. LR 107 – An Act To Allow Tax Increment Financing To Be Used for Local Broadband Infrastructure.
17. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

b. **The LPC Subcommittee on Elections, State & Local Government, Marijuana, Labor & Utilities** will provide recommendations for full LPC consideration on the following legislative initiatives.

i. Energy, Utilities & Technology-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 13 – An Act To Allow Microgrids That Are in the Public Interest.
3. LD 173 – An Act To Promote Economic Development and Critical Communications for Family Farms, Businesses and Residences by Strategic Public Investment in High-speed Internet.
4. LD 224 – An Act To Fund the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund.
5. LD 334 – An Act To Change the Definition of “Renewable Capacity Resource.”

6. LD 347 – An Act to Provide Sustainable Funding for Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure.
 7. LD 372 – An Act To Increase the Safety of Municipal Residents by Allowing Municipalities To Address Downed Wires in Extended Power Outages.
 8. LR 130 – An Act To Ensure Non-Discriminatory Treatment of Public, Educational and Governmental Access Channels by the Cable Operator.
 9. LR 1758 – An Act To Facilitate Small Wireless Facilities deployment in Maine.
 10. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
- ii. Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement & Business-related legislation.
1. Consent agenda items, if any.
 2. LD 15 – An Act To Provide for Municipalities To Allow Grocery Stores up to 10,000 Square Feet To Open on Thanksgiving, Easter and Christmas.
 3. LD 105 – An Act To Establish the Office of Outdoor Recreation.
 4. LD 149 – An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide Student Debt Forgiveness To Support Workforce Attraction and Retention.
 5. LD 371 – An Act To Create the Small Communities Tourism Fund.
 6. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
- iii. Labor & Housing-related legislation.
1. Consent agenda items, if any.

2. LD 69 – An Act To Provide Economic Security to Maine Families through the Creation of a Paid Family Medical Leave System.
3. LD 75 – An Act To Protect Earned Pay.
4. LD 298 – An Act To Establish a Conditional Presumption of Compensability for Corrections Employees in Cases of Impairment from Hypertension or Heart Disease.
5. LD 369 – An Act To Support Healthy Workplaces and Healthy Families by Providing Earned Paid Sick Leave to Certain Employees.
6. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iv. State & Local Government-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 53 – An Act To Clarify Local Referendum Ballots.
3. LD 59 – An Act To Establish a Recall Process for Elected Officials in Plantations.
4. LD 209 – An Act To Prohibit Municipalities from Prohibiting Short-term Rentals.
5. LD 301 – An Act To Help Older Adults Age in Place through Comprehensive Planning.
6. LR (draft) – Register of Deeds preservation of records.
7. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

v. Veterans & Legal Affairs-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 186 – RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Specify the Qualifications of Electors.

3. LD 217 – An Act To Aid in Certain Veterans’ Organizations.
4. LD 218 – An Act To Prohibit a Person from Collecting Contributions under the Maine Clean Election Act at a Polling Place.
5. LD 272 – An Act To Allow Voting by Mail.
6. LD 293 – An Act Regarding Early Voting in Person.
7. LD 322 – An Act To Strengthen Maine’s Election Laws by Requiring Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting.
8. LD 374 – RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require That Signatures on a Direct Initiative of Legislation Come from Each State Senatorial District.
9. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

c. **The LPC Subcommittee on Criminal Justice & Public Safety, Environment & Transportation** will provide recommendations for full LPC consideration on the following legislative matters.

i. Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 199 – An Act To Create the Water Resources Planning Committee.
3. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

ii. Criminal Justice & Public Safety-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 141 – An Act To Promote Highway Safety by Restricting the Use of Marijuana and Possession of an Open Marijuana Container in a Vehicle.

3. LD 159 – An Act To Require Cameras in Ambulances When a Patient is Being Transported.
4. LD 182 – An Act To Amend the Maine Bail Code Regarding the Financial Capacity of a Defendant To Post Bond.
5. LD 223 – An Act Regarding Community Service Sentencing.
6. LD 264 – An Act Regarding the Taking of a Blood Sample from an Operator of a Motor Vehicle Involved in a Fatal Accident.
7. LR (draft) – An Act To Allow Municipalities To Prohibit Weapons at Municipal Public Proceedings and Voting Places.
8. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iii. Environment & Natural Resources-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 87 – An Act To Increase the Bottle Redemption Deposit.
3. LD 197 – An Act To Convene a Working Group To Authorize a Public Trust for Maine’s Groundwater and To Impose a 2-year Moratorium on Large-scale Groundwater Extraction.
4. LD 216 – An Act To Protect Water Quality by Standardizing the Law Concerning Septic Inspection in the Shoreland Zone.
5. LD 319 – An Act To Standardize the Laws Concerning Property Transfers and To Protect Water Quality.
6. LR 266 – Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs.
7. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iv. Inland Fisheries & Wildlife-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 79 – An Act To Protect Shooting Ranges.

3. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
- v. Marine Resources-related legislation.
1. Consent agenda items, if any.
 2. LD 4 – An Act To Encourage Applied Shellfish Research.
 3. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
- vi. Transportation-related legislation.
1. Consent agenda items, if any.
 2. LD 19 – An Act To Require Public School Busses To Be Equipped with School Buss Crossing Arms.
 3. LD 165 – An Act To Prohibit the Use of Handheld Phones and Devices While Driving.
 4. LD 180 – An Act To Allow for the Regulation of Transportation Network Companies at Airports by Municipalities.
 5. LD 261 – An Act To Restrict the Authority for Posting of Roads.
 6. LD 323 – An Act to Set the Minimum Penalty for Littering on State Highways at \$1,000.
 7. LD 350 – An Act To Exempt Head Start School Buses from Snow Tire Restrictions.
 8. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

III. Adjourn