



Maine Municipal Association

60 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330-9486
(207) 623-8428
www.memun.org

To: MMA's Legislative Policy Committee
From: Christine Landes, Chair
Re: Notice and Agenda for February 28, 2019 LPC Meeting
Date: March 21, 2019

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

Thursday, March 28, 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

First and foremost, thank you to all the LPC members who took time out of their busy lives to participate in yesterday's revenue sharing hearing. It was a successful event and the members of the Appropriations and Taxation Committees repeatedly heard how the reductions in revenue sharing have impacted municipalities statewide. However, there is much more work to be done, as restoring of funding for revenue sharing is competing with others funding requests.

Next Thursday, the LPC will meet to take positions on several pieces of legislation. With the pace of session picking up steam, it is likely that staff will issue multiple supplemental agendas, one of which may be issued on the day of the meeting. Because bills are now being heard and worked within a one week timeframe, it may also be the case that MMA staff will poll members of the LPC between the March and April 25 meetings to obtain positions on bills. Because the survey process is a mediocre method for establishing the Association's position on bills, it will be used only when absolutely necessary.

If you have any questions about next week's meeting or the materials provided in the packet, please do not hesitate to contact Kate Dufour at kdufour@memun.org or 1-800-452-8786.

Thank you.

Agenda

I. MMA Policy Platform Bills Printed – FYI

- a. LD 1063, *An Act To Support the Role of Municipalities in Expanding Broadband Infrastructure*, sponsored by Rep. McCreight of Harpswell.
- b. LD 1192, *An Act To Establish Municipal Access to Utility Poles Located in Municipal Rights-of-way*, sponsored by Sen. Vitelli of Sagadahoc Cty.
- c. LD 1206, *An Act To Improve Aboveground Utilities' Responsiveness to Public Interests*, sponsored by Rep. Beebe-Center of Rockland.
- d. LD 1234, *An Act To Expand the Value of the Homestead Exemption to \$25,000 and State Reimbursement to 100 Percent of Lost Property Tax Revenue*, sponsored by Rep. Austin of Skowhegan.
- e. LD 1278, *RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Requiring the State To Share Not Less Than 5 Percent of State Sales and Income Tax Revenue with Municipalities*, sponsored by Sen. Moore of Washington Cty.

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 741 – An Act to Return Surplus Money to Maine Taxpayers.
 - 3. Plus, legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
 - ii. Education & Cultural Affairs-related legislation.
 - 1. Consent agenda items, if any.

2. LD 1064 – An Act to Address Maine’s Firefighter Shortage by Offering Firefighter Training for Credit in High School Career and Technical Education Programs.
3. LD 1170 – An Act To Raise the Floor of State Education Funding.
4. LD 1182 – An Act To Improve School Safety by Requiring Law Enforcement Visits.
5. LD 1341 – An Act To Provide Flexibility for Efficient and Effective Management of School Management and Leadership Centers.
6. LD 1347 – An Act To Promote High-quality After-school Programs in Public Schools.
7. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iii. Health & Human Services-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 1079 – An Act To Require Public Schools To Periodically Test for Radon.
3. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iv. Taxation-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 1074 – An Act To Establish a Tax on Water Extracted for Bottling in Order To Secure the Economic Future of Rural Maine.
3. LD 1122 – An Act To Expand Tax Increment Financing.

4. LD 1145 – An Act To Improve the Law Authorizing Municipalities To Allow Low-income Seniors To Defer Payment of Municipal Property Taxes.
5. LD 1150 – An Act To Amend the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law To Encourage Public Access.
6. LD 1191 – An Act To Exempt Solar Energy Equipment from Property Tax.
7. LD 1326 – An Act To Expand Eligibility for the Veterans’ Property Tax Exemption.
8. ... 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 674 (amendment) An Act To Improve the E-9-1-1 System (tabled at 2/28 meeting pending language).
3. LD 1139 – An Act To Eliminate Restrictions on Capacity and the Number of Accounts for Net Energy Billing.
4. LD 1198 – An Act To Ensure Transparency and Participation in Maine Water Districts.
5. LD 1248 – Resolve, To Direct the ConnectME Authority To Report on the Progress of the Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine.
6. LD 1299 – An Act To Incentivize Municipalities, State Agencies, Colleges and Universities To Use Electric Vehicles.
7. LD 1363 – An Act Regarding Energy Transmission Corridors.

8. LD 1364 – An Act Regarding Net Neutrality and Internet Policy.
 9. ... 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 1121 – An Act To Acknowledge Potable Water as a Necessity.
 3. LD 1290 – An Act to Increase Transparency with Regard to Pawnshops.
 4. LD 1342 – An Act To Establish the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute.
 5. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
- iii. Judiciary-related legislation.
1. Consent agenda items, if any.
 2. LD 1091 – An Act Regarding the Personal Liability of Government Employees.
 3. LD 1183 – Resolve, To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Remote Participation by Members of Public Bodies.
 4. LD 1219 – An Act To Establish an Independent Board To Review Law Enforcement Officer-involved Deaths.
 5. LD 1312 – An Act Regarding Access to Firearms by Extremely Dangerous and Suicidal Individuals.
 6. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
- iv. Labor & Housing-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 1077 – An Act To Ensure Fair Employment Opportunity for Maine Citizens and Legal Residents by Requiring the Use of the Federal Immigration Verification System.
3. LD 1107 – An Act To Promote Workforce Development and Community Integration.
4. LD 1203 – An Act To Clarify the Retirement Presumption under the Maine Workers’ Compensation Act of 1992.
5. LD 1204 – An Act To Eliminate the Cap on Weekly Benefits in Workers’ Compensation Cases.
6. LD 1205 – An Act To Allow Full Retirement Benefits under the Maine Workers’ Compensation Act of 1992.
7. LD 1237 – An Act To Simplify Municipal Collective Bargaining by Removing the 120-Day Notice Required Prior to Certain Negotiations.
8. LD 1239 – An Act To Mandate Paid Maternity and Parental Leave.
9. LD 1251 – An Act To Make Agricultural Workers and Other Workers Employees under the Wage and Hour Laws.
10. LD 1253 – An Act To Fairly Compensate for Fatal Accidents under the Maine Workers’ Compensation Act of 1992.
11. LD 1319 – An Act To Prohibit Employer Disciplinary Action against Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Persons Responding to an Emergency.
12. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

v. Marijuana-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 1129 – An Act To Clarify Certain Provisions of the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act.

3. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
- vi. State & Local Government-related legislation.
 1. Consent agenda items, if any.
 2. LD 1066 – An Act To Address Municipal Conflicts of Interest.
 3. LD 1128 – An Act To Clarify Statutes Related to Establishing a Municipal Charter Commission.
 4. LD 1176 – An Act Regarding Caretakers of Ancient Burying Grounds and Access to Ancient Burying Grounds.
 5. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.
 - vii. Veterans & Legal Affairs-related legislation.
 1. Consent agenda items, if any.
 2. LD 1083 – An Act To Implement Ranked-choice Voting for Presidential Primary and General Elections in Maine.
 3. LD 1357 – An Act Regarding State Licensure for the Sale of Spirits for Off-premises Consumption.
 4. ... 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 1114 – An Act To Humanely Treat Animals Trapped in Buildings.
 3. LD 1230 – An Act To Update the Civil Animal Welfare Laws.

4. LD 1316 – An Act To Make It Explicit That Maine Holds Title to Its Intertidal Lands.
5. LD 1323 – An Act To Revise the Laws Regarding the Public Trust in Intertidal Lands.
6. ... 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 1092 – An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Critical Incident Stress Management Teams.
3. LD 1188 – An Act To Provide Preventive Counseling to Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services' Persons as Part of Their Training.
4. LD 1221 – An Act To Allow Deductions from Prison Sentences for Rehabilitative Activities.
5. LD 1295 – An Act To Determine the Need To Increase the Number of Forensic Emergency and Crisis Beds.
6. LD 1346 – An Act To Revise the Good Time Laws To Improve Public Safety.
7. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iii. Environment & Natural Resources-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 1101 – An Act To Amend the Shoreland Zoning Laws To Allow Pedestrian Walkways and Trails That Exclude Motorized Vehicles within the Shoreland Zone.
3. LD 1320 – An Act To Require the Department of Environmental Protection To Provide Natural Resources Protection Act Permits to Affected Municipalities.

4. LD 1358 – An Act To Further the Public Interest in All Maine Waters.
5. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

iv. Marine Resources-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 1148 – An Act Regarding the Costs Incurred by Municipalities in the Administration of Aquaculture Leases.
3. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

v. Transportation-related legislation.

1. Consent agenda items, if any.
2. LD 1084 – An Act Regarding the Operation of Pedal-powered Tour Vehicles.
3. LD 1157 – An Act To Fix Maine’s Roads and Bridges by Establishing a Seasonal Gasoline Tax Adjustment.
4. LD 1166 – An Act To Require Public Transit To Be Accessible to Blind or Visually Impaired Riders.
5. LD 1195 – An Act To Encourage the Removal of Campaign Signs from the Public Right-of-way.
6. LD 1257 – An Act To Prepare Maine for a Low-carbon Transportation Future.
7. LD 1266 – An Act To Create Transportation Corridor Districts for the Purpose of Funding Transportation and Transit Services.
8. LD 1329 – An Act To Allow Temporary Roadside Memorials for Deceased Victims of Traffic Accidents.
9. LD 1367 – An Act To Preserve and Protect the State’s Rail Corridors.

10. ... Plus legislation that was printed after this agenda was distributed.

III. Adjourn