

To: MMA's Legislative Policy Committee
Fr: Justin Poirier, Chair
Re: Notice and Agenda for the April 16, 2025 LPC Meeting
Date: April 9, 2025

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

Wednesday, April 16, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting
Maine Municipal Association

Zoom Option Available:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85026384740?pwd=UQvhMAPffwQnVWTImY07bXs9bmWP2N.1>

As you will read, the April meeting will be just as action packed as the last three. In addition to establishing MMA's position on the bills listed below, it is likely more will be added to a supplemental agenda as there are roughly 500 bills still in the pipeline.

Because staff were unable to get a quorum of LPC members to participate in the in-between meeting surveys, those bills are listed in the agenda below. For your information, staff have noted the position established by a majority of the survey participants.

Also, please let Laura (lellis@memun.org) know by **noon on Friday, April 11** if you will be participating via Zoom or in-person, so that staff can plan appropriately.

I look forward to guiding the committee through the following agenda.

Agenda

- I. Welcome (10:00 a.m.)**
- II. 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. **Amanda Campbell** will provide information for full LPC consideration on the following legislative initiatives.
- i. **Environment & Natural Resources-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 1507](#) *An Act to Require General Public Notification of Oil Terminal Facility Transfer Activities*
 - ii. **Health & Human Services-related legislation.**
 1. LD 1235 ([amendment](#)) *An Act to Establish Transparency in Opioid Settlement Funds Allocated to Municipalities or Counties*
 2. [LD 1274](#) *An Act to Cap State General Assistance Reimbursement to Municipalities* (3/28 poll results: Oppose 86%)
 3. [LD 1326](#) *An Act to Protect the Drinking Water for Consumers of Certain Water Systems by Establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels for Certain Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances*
 4. [LD 1428](#) *An Act to Increase Access to Child Care for Maine Families*
 - iii. **Labor-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 1307](#) *An Act to Suspend the Remittance Obligation for Paid Family and Medical Leave Private Plan Users*
 2. [LD 1333](#) *An Act to Make Changes to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program*
 - iv. **Taxation-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 1278](#) *An Act to Change the Property Tax Appeal Process* (4/04 poll results: Support 80%)
 2. [LD 1304](#) *RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Limit Property Tax Increases for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older and Shift the Tax Burden to State Gaming Revenues*
 3. [LD 1355](#) *Resolve, to Require the Office of Tax Policy to Study Taxation of Renewable Energy Infrastructure* (4/04 poll results: Support 53%)
 4. [LD 1368](#) *An Act to Provide a Property Tax Exemption for Allowing Shellfish Harvester Access to the Intertidal Zone* (4/04 poll results: Oppose 75%)
 5. [LD 1464](#) *An Act to Provide for an Alternative Municipal Property Tax Assessment Rate*
 6. [LD 1481](#) *An Act to Amend the Law Governing Stabilization of Property Taxes on Homesteads of Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older*

7. [LD 1506](#) *An Act to Amend the Personal Property Tax Exemption for Individually Owned Personal Property*
8. [LD 1537](#) *Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Lowering Property Taxes by Revising the State-Municipal Revenue Sharing Program*

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

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

1. [LD 1282](#) *An Act Regarding Eligibility for Historic Preservation Bond Proceeds* (4/04 poll results: Support 47%)
2. [LD 1518](#) *An Act to Clarify the Amount and Use of Unallocated Balances in a School Administrative Unit Budget*

ii. **Energy, Utilities & Technology-related legislation.**

1. [LD 1535](#) *An Act to Reduce Illegal Cannabis Operations by Requiring Permits for High Electrical Usage*

iii. **Judiciary-related legislation.**

1. [LD 1484](#) *An Act Related to Public Access of Records of Certain Disciplinary Actions of Public Employees*

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

1. [LD 1244](#) *An Act to Establish Requirements for Warming Shelters* (3/28 poll results: Oppose, unanimously)
2. [LD 1388](#) *An Act to Replace the Participation Threshold in Votes to Adopt or Alter a Municipal Charter with a Lower Approval Threshold* (4/04 poll results: NFNA 57%)
3. [LD 1462](#) *An Act to Promote Artisans and the Creative Economy*
4. [LD 1517](#) *An Act to Replace Participation Thresholds with Approval Thresholds in Certain School, Municipal and County Measures*

v. **Veterans & Legal affairs-related legislation.**

1. [LD 1320](#) *An Act to Prevent Illicit Cultivation and Trafficking Within Maine's Regulated Cannabis Industry*
2. [LD 1365](#) *An Act to Allow Consumption of Adult Use Cannabis in Locally Approved Hospitality Lounges*
3. [LD 1455](#) *An Act to Prevent Illegal Cannabis Growing Operations in the State*
4. [LD 1527](#) *An Act to Require Postage Prepaid Envelopes Be Provided for the Return of Absentee Ballots*

- c. **Rebecca Graham** will provide information for full LPC consideration on the following legislative initiatives.
- i. **Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 1450](#) *An Act Regarding the Voluntary Municipal Farm Support Program*
 - ii. **Criminal Justice & Public Safety-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 1295](#) *An Act to Waive Basic Law Enforcement Training Requirements for Full-time Law Enforcement Officers Who Have Successfully Completed Equivalent Courses in Other Jurisdictions* (3/28 poll results: NFNA 45%)
 2. [LD 1452](#) *An Act to Allow the Emergency Medical Services' Board to Assess Civil Penalties for the Noncompliance of Emergency Medical Services Persons with the Requirement to Administer Naloxone Hydrochloride in Compliance with Trainings and Procedures Developed by the Board*
 3. [LD 1526](#) *An Act to Change the Permissible Hours and Penalties Pertaining to the Use of Consumer Fireworks*
 - iii. **Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 1401](#) *An Act to Repeal the Provisions of Law Requiring Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance Policies to Cover the Cost of Towing and Storing Certain Vehicles*
 - iv. **Health & Human Services-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 1416](#) *An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Immediately Take Custody of Persons Sentenced to Mental Health Facilities That May Not Include County or Regional Jails*
 2. [LD 1429](#) *An Act to Provide Full Reimbursement for Emergency Ambulance Services Provided to MaineCare Members*
 - v. **Housing & Economic Development-related legislation.**
 1. [LD 949](#) *An Act to Clarify Licensing Jurisdiction for Manufactured Housing Communities* (3/28 poll results: Oppose 81%)
 2. [LD 1226](#) *An Act to Protect Consumers by Licensing Residential Building Contractors*
 3. [LD 1232](#) *An Act to Require Radon Testing for Certain Commercial and Residential Construction*
 4. [LD 1246](#) *Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development to Convene a Working Group to Review the Process of Setting Impact Fees*

5. [LD 1247](#) *An Act to Restrict Municipal Ordinance Requirements Regarding Housing Developments*
6. [LD 1272](#) *An Act to Address the Housing Crisis by Reducing Barriers to Building More Accessory Dwelling Units*
7. [LD 1375](#) *Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Address Regulatory Barriers to Housing Construction*
8. [LD 1385](#) *An Act to Consider Municipalities Meeting Regional Housing Goals in Awarding Transportation Grants*
9. [LD 1396](#) *An Act to Amend Maine's Municipal Subdivision Standards to Increase the Number of Dwelling Units on or Divisions of a Tract of Land Before the Tract is Considered a Subdivision*
10. [LD 1498](#) *An Act to Limit Municipal Impact Fees on Housing Development*
11. [LD 1534](#) *An Act Enabling Municipalities to Protect Tenants and Stabilize Rents*

vi. **Judiciary-related legislation.**

1. [LD 1344](#) *An Act to Improve the Response Time to Tenant Mold Complaints*
2. [LD 1347](#) *An Act to Increase the Cap on Liability for Governmental Entities Under the Maine Tort Claims Act (4/04 poll results: Oppose 69%)*
3. [LD 1348](#) *An Act to Increase the Limit on Damages Under the Maine Tort Claims Act for Negligence Involving School Field Trips (4/04 poll results: Oppose 81%)*
4. [LD 1399](#) *An Act to Allow Action Against a Person Violating the Confidentiality of an Executive Session of a Public Body or Agency (4/04 poll results: NFNA 40%)*
5. [LD 1410](#) *An Act to Provide Due Process in Confiscation and Destruction of Personal Items of Unhoused Persons*

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

1. [LD 1417](#) *An Act to Strengthen the Authority of Local Officials to Enforce Provisions Regarding Dangerous and Nuisance Properties that Constitute a Threat to Public Health and Safety (4/04 poll results: Support 69%)*

III. Polling Results with Comments. All bills voted by poll and Zoom since the March 20 meeting can be found at [Attachment #2](#). Because staff were unable to get a quorum of LPC members to participate in the in-between meeting surveys and impromptu Zoom meetings, those bills are listed in the above agenda for full debate along with the tentative positions taken.

IV. MMA platform bills printed & updates.

[LD 1530](#) *An Act to Improve the Sustainability of Emergency Medical Services in Maine* (Sponsored by Sen. Curry of Waldo Cty.)

V. Housekeeping

a. Attendance

b. Future 2025 meeting dates

- i. Thursday, May 22

VI. Adjourn