



Maine People's Alliance

INSIDE:

- 2023 House and Senate scores
- The Governor's score

- How everyday Mainers fared this session
- How we won paid family and medical leave ...and more!

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565 Congress Street #200
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THE 2023 PEOPLE'S SCORECARD

TO OUR MEMBERS,

MPA is working every day to pass policies in Maine that will allow us to build a world where everyone has what they need and contributes what they can, and no one is left behind. We make more progress towards this vision each year, and we are excited to share with you the enclosed legislative scorecard that summarizes progress towards some of our policy priorities in the most recent legislative session. These bills don't reflect the entirety of our vision, but they do reflect some of the most important decisions lawmakers made this year about how to move towards the just and democratic society that future generations of Mainers deserve.

Real progress takes time. But over the past 41 years, MPA members

have not given up. When dangerous political leaders have used racism to divide people, MPA members have always come together across lines of difference to demand justice for all, no exceptions. When big corporations have tried to get away with polluting our rivers, cheating their way out of taxes or corrupting politicians, MPA members have won lawsuits and passed policies to rein in their power. When lawmakers have failed to make progress on some of the issues most important to Maine voters—low wages, access to health care, voting rights and more—MPA has put power in the hands of voters, and won ballot initiatives that have transformed our state.

For decades, MPA has shown what

is possible when everyday people decide to get involved in working for change. Each year, hundreds of MPA members get involved in our campaigns—calling their legislators, organizing their neighbors, testifying at public hearings, and more. MPA members have shown us, time after time, that we are more powerful together than any one of us could be alone.

This year, all that hard work paid off big. In 2023, MPA members helped win a paid family and medical leave system for Maine, an expansion of Maine's Child Tax Credit, an increase in legislator pay (making it easier for low-income people to run and serve), new investments in childcare, affordable housing and addressing climate change—

and more.

Of course, there is much more progress yet to be made. If you've been thinking about finding ways to get involved in politics or social justice, please reach out. We make it easy to make your voice heard, whether you have a lot of time to give, or a little!

Thank you for being part of MPA. Together, we are winning!

Sincerely,

Amy Halsted & Jesse Graham

Co-Directors of MPA

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About Maine People's Alliance

The Maine People's Alliance (MPA) is Maine's largest community action organization, representing more than 32,000 members across the state. Our mission is to create a world where everyone has what they need and contributes what they can, and no one is left behind.

For more than four decades, MPA members have joined with neighbors and friends to work for the kind of world in which we all want to live. We have worked on dozens of local, state and national issue campaigns. We've successfully organized to raise the minimum wage and to create a paid family and medical leave

program that works for all Maine workers; we've held corporate polluters accountable; and we've stood up for the rights of people with low incomes, immigrants, people of color, and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

To find out more about getting involved with the Maine People's Alliance, visit us on the web at

www.mainepeoplesalliance.org. You can stay up to date on the latest political news at the Maine Beacon, at www.mainebeacon.com. You can subscribe to our weekly podcast about Maine politics wherever you get your podcasts, or at www.mainebeacon.com/podcast

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FIND YOUR POWER WITH MPA'S VOLUNTEER LOBBY TEAM



Each week during the legislative session, members of MPA's volunteer lobby team travel to Augusta, where they get to speak directly with lawmakers about their personal experiences and the various bills that would make a difference in their lives. For many, this experience has taught them the power of their personal story as well as the impact they can make on their own state and community.

In 2023, we lobbied on drug policy, paid family and medical leave, inclusion of all income-qualifying Mainers in MaineCare regardless of immigration status (or "All Means All"), and housing justice – including rent stabilization, rental assistance, and moving towards a housing-first approach to our housing crisis. We also joined our coalition partners and supported lobby days with the Wabanaki Alliance, Maine Recovery Advocacy Project, Maine Equal Justice, and Maine TransNet.

We asked some members of our lobby team to share their experiences from this legislative session.

Jacob Turlo, a University of Maine student and MPA intern, recalled, "Talking to my Senator from Benton, Bradley Farrin, about the Harm Reduction Health Centers bill, I learned that he had recently lost his daughter to a drug overdose. His position that this bill was a step too far and that money should be used for enforcement was counter to mine, but he gave me over ten minutes of his time while the Senate was in session and the heart-to-heart discussion we had broke the barrier between me, a constituent, and my representative."

Mimi Cargill, from Lisbon Falls, was asked to join a paid family and medical leave lobby day by her friend Susan. Mimi said, "I'm always involved. I show up and I speak up. It's in me."

Mimi, who is 82 years old, ended up attending several lobby days and rally events in Augusta and shared, "if we don't show up and challenge our representatives to be honest, we lose democracy. Most people believe that their neighbor will do it. We – you and I – must protect democracy."

Julia Lester from Paris also joined a paid family and medical leave lobby day. "Lobbying with MPA provided an opportunity to easily speak with my representatives about the issues I care about most. It was a great way to become more familiar with the process of lawmaking while working with others from around Maine who share a lot of my values."

If you are interested in getting involved with MPA's lobby team, contact Amy Larkin at amyjanejane@gmail.com.

ABOUT THE SCORECARD

No matter what part of the state we live in, what we do for a living, or whether we're from Maine or from away, we all deserve to have our interests represented in our state legislature.

It's impossible to keep track of everything going on in Augusta during a legislative session – but it's important to know how the people we put into office are doing. That's why every year, MPA releases a legislative scorecard to show how our state legislators voted on the most critical issues that de-

finied each legislative session and made the biggest impact on people's lives.

There are more than 1,500 bills typically heard in a two-year session, so we try to cut through the noise and highlight the votes that mattered the most. We take a comprehensive look at ALL bills that got a vote and select the ones that represent the full range of what makes a difference in the lives of Mainers.

Our scorecard covers a wide range of issues, because we know that

a lot of issues matter: we all need housing, health care, and the ability to care for ourselves and our families; we need education for our kids; and we need to know that our government is working for all of us, no matter where we come from or the color of our skin.

We hope that you'll take a minute to check out your own legislators' scores and another minute to share. Every Mainer should know whether their elected officials are representing their values.

THE 131st SENATE





KEY


- ✔ vote aligned with MPA values
- x vote against MPA values
- a absent (see FAQs, page 11)
- ✔ Special Mentions (see page 14)


SENATOR	PARTY	TERM LIMITED	2023 SCORE	LD 199	LD 258	LD 398	LD 535	LD 701	LD 1155	LD 1364	LD 1365	LD 1376	LD 1847	LD 1964	LD 2004
BAILEY, DONNA District 31 - York County	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
BALDACCI, JOSEPH District 9 - Penobscot County	D	2028	67%	✔	✔	✔	x	x	x	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
BEEBE-CENTER, PINNY District 12 - Knox County	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
BENNETT, RICHARD District 19 - Oxford County	R	2028	33%	x	✔	✔	x	x	x	✔	x	x	x	x	✔
BLACK, RUSSELL District 17 - Franklin County	R	2026	0%	a	a	a	x	x	a	x	x	x	a	x	x
BRAKEY, ERIC District 20 - Androscoggin County	R	2030	8%	x	x	x	x	x	x	✔	x	x	x	x	x
BRENNER, STACY District 30 - Cumberland County	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
CARNEY, ANNE District 29 - Cumberland County	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
CHIPMAN, BENJAMIN District 27 - Cumberland County	D	2024	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
CURRY, CHIP District 11 - Waldo County	D	2028	82%	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	a	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
DAUGHTRY, MATTHEA District 24 - Cumberland County ✔	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
DUSON, JILL District 27 - Cumberland County	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
FARRIN, BRADLEE District 3 - Somerset County	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	a	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x
GROHOSKI, NICOLE District 7 - Hancock County	D	2026	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
GUERIN, STACEY District 10 - Penobscot County	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x
HARRINGTON, MATTHEW District 33 - York County	R	2030	8%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✔
HICKMAN, CRAIG District 14 - Kennebec County	D	2028	100%	a	a	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
INGWERSEN, HENRY District 32 - York County	D	2030	83%	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
JACKSON, TROY District 1 - Aroostook County	D	2024	83%	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
KEIM, LISA District 18 - Oxford County	R	2024	0%	a	a	a	x	a	x	a	a	a	a	a	a
LAFOUNTAIN, DAVID District 16 - Kennebec County	D	2030	58%	x	✔	x	x	✔	x	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
LAWRENCE, MARK District 35 - York County	D	2026	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
LIBBY, JAMES District 22 - Cumberland County	R	2026	17%	x	x	x	x	x	✔	x	x	x	x	x	✔
LYFORD, PETER District 10 - Penobscot	R	2030	0%	x	x	a	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x
MOORE, MARIANNE District 6 - Washington County	R	2026	8%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✔
NANGLE, TIMOTHY District 26 - Cumberland County	D	2030	75%	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
PIERCE, TERESA District 25 - Cumberland County	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
POULIOT, MATTHEW District 15 - Kennebec County	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	x	x	a	x	x	a	x	x	x
RAFFERTY, JOSEPH District 34 - York County	D	2028	88%	a	a	a	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	a	✔	✔
RENY, CAMERON District 13 - Lincoln County	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
ROTUNDO, MARGARET "PEGGY" District 21 - Androscoggin County ✔	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
STEWART, TREY District 2 - Aroostook County	R	2028	9%	x	✔	x	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x
TIMBERLAKE, JEFFREY District 22 - Androscoggin County	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
TIPPING, MIKE District 8 - Penobscot County ✔	D	2030	92%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
VITELLI, ELOISE District 23 - Sagadahoc County	D	2024	83%	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

THE 131st HOUSE

KEY

-  vote aligned with MPA values
-  vote against MPA values
-  absent (see FAQs, page 11)
-  Special Mentions (see page 14)

REPRESENTATIVE	PARTY	TERM LIMITED	2023 SCORE	LD 199	LD 258	LD 398	LD 535	LD 691	LD 1338	LD 1364	LD 1365	LD 1376	LD 1847	LD 1964	LD 2004
ABDI, MANA District 95 - Lewiston	D	2030	100%	✓	✓	a	a	✓	a	✓	a	✓	✓	a	✓
ADAMS, JEFFREY District 144 - Lebanon	R	2030	0%	a	a	x	x	x	x	a	x	a	a	x	a
ALBERT, ROGER District 2 - Madawaska	R	2030	9%	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	a	x
ANDREWS, JOHN District 79 - Paris	R	2026	11%	a	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	a	✓
ANKELES, DANIEL District 100 - Brunswick	D	2030	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ARATA, AMY District 104 - New Gloucester	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
ARDELL, DONALD District 6 - Monticello	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
ARFORD, POPPY District 101 - Brunswick	D	2028	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BABIN, MARK District 3 - Fort Fairfield	R	2030	17%	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	✓
BAGSHAW, BARBARA District 106 - Windham	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
BELL, ARTHUR District 103 - Yarmouth	D	2028	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BLIER, MARK District 138 - Buxton	R	2026	8%	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x
BOYER, DAVID District 87 - Poland	R	2030	17%	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	✓
BOYLE, JAMES District 109 - Gorham	D	2026	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	a	a	✓	✓
BRADSTREET, RICHARD District 61 - Vassalboro	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
BRENNAN, MICHAEL District 115 - Portland	D	2024	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BRIDGEO, WILLIAM District 60 - Augusta	D	2030	83%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
CAMPBELL, RICHARD District 19 - Orrington	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
CARLOW, NATHAN District 137 - Buxton	R	2024	11%	a	x	x	x	a	x	✓	a	x	x	x	x
CARMICHAEL, MELDON District 18 - Greenbush	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
CLOUTIER, KRISTEN District 94 - Lewiston 	D	2024	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CLUCHEY, SALLY District 52 - Bowdoinham	D	2030	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
COLLAMORE, AMANDA District 68 - Pittsfield	R	2026	10%	a	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓
COLLINGS, BENJAMIN District 114 - Portland	D	2024	100%	✓	✓	✓	a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
COPELAND, LYNN H. District 130 - Saco	D	2028	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
COSTAIN, DANNY District 33 - Plymouth	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
CRAFTS, LYDIA District 46 - Newcastle	D	2026	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CRAVEN, MARGARET District 93 - Lewiston	D	2028	83%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CRAY, DEAN District 69 - Palmyra	R	2030	0%	a	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

REPRESENTATIVE	PARTY	TERM LIMITED	2023 SCORE	LD 199	LD 258	LD 398	LD 535	LD 691	LD 1338	LD 1364	LD 1365	LD 1376	LD 1847	LD 1964	LD 2004
CROCKETT, W. EDWARD District 112 - Portland	D	2026	78%	✓	✓	a	✓	✓	a	✓	✓	x	✓	a	x
CYRWAY, SCOTT District 63 - Albion	R	2024	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
DAVIS, JR., KENNETH RALPH District 10 - East Machias	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
DHALAC, DEQA District 120 - South Portland	D	2030	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DILL, JAMES District 26 - Penobscot	D	2030	67%	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓
DODGE, JANICE District 39 - Belfast	D	2026	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DOUDERA, VICTORIA District 41 - Camden	D	2026	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DRINKWATER, GARY District 27 - Milford	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
DUCHARME, JOHN District 71 - Madison	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
DUNPHY, LARRY District 72 - Embden	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
EATON, HOLLY District 15 - Deer Isle	D	2030	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	a	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
FAULKINGHAM, BILLY BOB District 12 - Winter Harbor	R	2028	8%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓
FAY, JESSICA District 86 - Raymond	D	2024	82%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	a	✓	x	✓	✓	✓
FOSTER, STEVEN District 32 - Dexter	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
FREDERICKS, ANN District 143 - Sanford	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	a	x
GALLETTA, JOSEPH District 98 - Durham	R	2030	0%	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	a	a	a	a
GATTINE, DREW District 126 - Westbrook	D	2030	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GEIGER, VALLI District 42 - Rockland	D	2028	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GERE, TRACI District 134 - Kennebunkport	D	2026	92%	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GIFFORD, IRENE District 28 - Lincoln	R	2030	0%	a	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	a	x
GOLEK, CHERYL District 99 - Harpswell 	D	2030	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GRAHAM, ANNE District 105 - North Yarmouth	D	2030	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GRAMLICH, LORI District 131 - Old Orchard Beach	D	2026	100%	a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GREENWOOD, RANDALL District 56 - Wales	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
GRIFFIN, ABIGAIL District 34 - Levant	R	2026	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
GUERRETTE, TIMOTHY District 4 - Caribou	R	2030	8%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓
HAGGAN, DAVID District 36 - Hampden	R	2024	0%	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
HALL, RANDALL District 74 - Wilton	R	2026	0%	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	a	a
HASENFUS, TAVIS District 57 - Readfield	D	2028	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	a	✓
HENDERSON, RACHEL District 78 - Rumford	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
HEPLER, ALLISON District 49 - Woolwich	D	2026	82%	✓	✓	a	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HOBBS, DANIEL District 145 - Wells	D	2030	91%	✓	a	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

THE 131st HOUSE (continued)

KEY

- ✔ vote aligned with MPA values
- x vote against MPA values
- a absent (see FAQs, page 11)
- ✔ Special Mentions (see page 14)

REPRESENTATIVE	PARTY	TERM LIMITED	2023 SCORE	LD 199	LD 258	LD 398	LD 535	LD 691	LD 1338	LD 1364	LD 1365	LD 1376	LD 1847	LD 1964	LD 2004
HYMES, BENJAMIN District 38 - Waldo	R	2030	8%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✔
JACKSON, CALDWELL District 80 - Oxford	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	a	x
JAUCH, REBECCA District 51 - Topsham	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
JAVNER, KATHY District 29 - Chester	R	2026	0%	x	x	a	x	a	a	x	a	x	x	a	x
KESSLER, CHRISTOPHER District 121 - South Portland ✔	D	2026	100%	a	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	a	✔
KUHN, AMY District 111 - Falmouth	D	2030	92%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
LAJOIE, MICHEL District 96 - Lewiston	D	2030	67%	✔	✔	a	x	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
LANDRY, SCOTT District 75 - Farmington	D	2026	82%	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	a	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔
LANIGAN, LUCAS District 141 - Sanford	R	2030	25%	✔	x	x	a	x	x	✔	x	a	a	a	x
LAROCHELLE, RAEGAN District 59 - Augusta	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	a	✔	✔	✔	a	✔	✔
LAVIGNE, THOMAS District 148 - Berwick	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	a	x
LEE, ADAM District 89 - Auburn	D	2030	92%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
LEMELIN, MICHAEL District 53 - Chelsea	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LIBBY, LAUREL District 90 - Auburn	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	x	x	a	x	x	x	x	a	x
LOOKNER, GRAYSON District 113 - Portland	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	a	✔
LYMAN, SHEILA District 76 - Livermore Falls	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
MADIGAN, COLLEEN District 64 - Waterville	D	2024	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MALON, MARC District 133 - Biddeford	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MASON, RICHARD District 97 - Lisbon	R	2024	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
MASTRACCIO, ANNE-MARIE District 142 - Sanford	D	2030	42%	x	✔	x	✔	✔	x	x	✔	x	x	✔	x
MATHIESON, KRISTI District 151 - Kittery	D	2026	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MATLACK, ANN District 43 - St. George	D	2026	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MEYER, MICHELE District 150 - Eliot	D	2026	91%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	a	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MILLETT, H. SAWIN District 81 - Waterford	R	2030	17%	x	✔	x	x	x	x	✔	x	x	x	x	x
MILLETT, REBECCA District 123 - Cape Elizabeth	D	2026	100%	✔	a	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MILLIKEN, NINA District 16 - Blue Hill	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MONTELL, KAREN District 54 - Gardiner	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MOONEN, MATT District 117 - Portland	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
MORIARTY, STEPHEN District 110 - Cumberland	D	2026	75%	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	x	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

REPRESENTATIVE	PARTY	TERM LIMITED	2023 SCORE	LD 199	LD 258	LD 398	LD 535	LD 691	LD 1338	LD 1364	LD 1365	LD 1376	LD 1847	LD 1964	LD 2004
MORRIS, JOSHUA District 91 - Turner	R	2026	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MURPHY, KELLY District 125 - Scarborough	D	2030	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
NESS, CALEB District 82 - Fryeburg	R	2030	0%	X	X	X	X	a	X	X	X	X	X	a	X
NEWMAN, DANIEL District 58 - Belgrade	R	2026	0%	X	a	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	a	X	a
NUTTING, ROBERT District 66 - Oakland	R	2030	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
O'CONNELL, KEVIN District 20 - Brewer	D	2026	57%	✓	a	✓	X	a	X	X	a	a	a	✓	✓
O'NEIL, MARGARET District 129 - Saco	D	2024	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OSHER, LAURIE District 25 - Orono	D	2028	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PARRY, WAYNE District 140 - Arundel	R	2026	0%	a	X	X	a	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PAUL, REAGAN District 37 - Winterport	R	2030	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PAULHUS, SEAN District 50 - Bath	D	2026	100%	✓	✓	a	✓	✓	a	✓	✓	✓	a	a	a
PERKINS, CHAD District 31 - Dover-Foxcroft	R	2030	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PERRY, ANNE District 9 - Calais	D	2024	80%	✓	✓	X	a	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	a	✓	✓
PERRY, JOSEPH District 24 - Bangor	D	2028	80%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	a	✓	X	✓	a	✓
PLUECKER, WILLIAM District 44 - Warren	I	2026	100%	✓	✓	a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
POIRIER, JENNIFER District 70 - Skowhegan	R	2024	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	a	X
POLEWARCZYK, EDWARD District 47 - Wiscasset	R	2030	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
POMERLEAU, KIMBERLY District 85 - Standish	R	2030	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PRINGLE, JANE District 107 - Windham	D	2030	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	a	✓	✓
QUINT, TRACY District 8 - Hodgdon	R	2026	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
RANA, AMBUREEN District 21 - Bangor	D	2030	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
RECKITT, LOIS * District 122 - South Portland	D		92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
RIELLY, MORGAN District 127 - Westbrook	D	2030	100%	a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
RISEMAN, WALTER District 83 - Harrison	I	2026	70%	X	✓	X	a	a	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ROBERTS, TIFFANY District 149 - South Berwick	D	2026	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ROEDER, AMY District 23 - Bangor	D	2028	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
RUDNICKI, SHELLEY District 67 - Fairfield	R	2024	0%	a	a	X	a	a	X	X	X	X	X	a	a
RUNTE, WALTER District 146 - York	D	2030	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
RUSSELL, RONALD District 17 - Verona Island	D	2030	91%	✓	✓	✓	a	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SACHS, MELANIE District 102 - Freeport	D	2026	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SALISBURY, SUZANNE District 128 - Westbrook	D	2028	92%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SAMPSON, HEIDI District 136 - Alfred	R	2028	0%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	a	X

* Rep. Lois Reckitt, a feminist trailblazer who spent half a century fighting for equal rights for women and domestic violence survivors, passed away in late October.

THE 131st HOUSE (continued)

KEY

- ✔ vote aligned with MPA values
- x vote against MPA values
- a absent (see FAQs, page 11)
- ✔ Special Mentions (see page 14)

REPRESENTATIVE	PARTY	TERM LIMITED	2023 SCORE	LD 199	LD 258	LD 398	LD 535	LD 691	LD 1338	LD 1364	LD 1365	LD 1376	LD 1847	LD 1964	LD 2004
SARGENT, HOLLY District 147 - York	D	2030	92%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
SAYRE, DANIEL District 135 - Kennebunk	D	2030	92%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS, TAMMY District 77 - Mexico	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
SHAGOURY, DANIEL District 55 - Hallowell	D	2030	92%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
SHAW, KATHY District 88 - Auburn	D	2030	89%	✔	a	✔	✔	✔	x	a	✔	✔	✔	✔	a
SHEEHAN, ERIN District 132 - Biddeford	D	2026	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
SIMMONS, ABDEN District 45 - Waldoboro	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	a	a	x	x
SKOLD, CHARLES District 119 - Portland	D	2030	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
SMITH, KATRINA District 62 - Palermo	R	2030	0%	x	a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	a
SOBOLESKI, MICHAEL District 73 - Phillips	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
STOVER, HOLLY District 48 - Boothbay	D	2024	92%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
STROUT, TIFFANY District 11 - Harrington	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
SUPICA, LAURA District 22 - Bangor	D	2026	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	a	a	✔	✔
SWALLOW, GREGORY District 7 - Houlton	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
TALBOT ROSS, RACHEL District 118 - Portland ✔	D	2024	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
TERRY, MAUREEN District 108 - Gorham	D	2024	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
THERIAULT, AUSTIN District 1 - Fort Kent	R	2030	13%	x	a	x	x	a	x	✔	a	x	x	x	a
THORNE, JAMES District 35 - Carmel	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
UNDERWOOD, JOSEPH District 5 - Presque Isle	R	2028	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	a	x
WALKER, MARK District 84 - Naples	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
WARREN, SOPHIA District 124 - Scarborough	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
WHITE, BRUCE District 65 - Waterville	D	2026	82%	✔	✔	✔	a	✔	x	✔	✔	x	✔	✔	✔
WHITE, JAMES District 30 - Guilford	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
WILLIAMS, LYNNE District 14 - Bar Harbor	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	a	✔
WOOD, STEPHEN District 92 - Sabattus	R	2030	0%	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
WOODSOME, DAVID District 139 - Waterboro	R	2030	11%	x	x	x	x	x	a	✔	x	a	a	x	x
WORTH, JAMES District 13 - Ellsworth	D	2030	100%	a	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
ZAGER, SAMUEL District 116 - Portland	D	2028	100%	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	a	✔
ZEIGLER, STANLEY District 40 - Montville	D	2024	100%	✔	✔	✔	a	✔	a	a	✔	a	✔	✔	✔

BILL DESCRIPTIONS



LD 199, Inclusion in MaineCare, regardless of immigration status

Sponsored by House Speaker Rachel Talbot-Ross (D-Portland)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

LD 199 would have closed a discriminatory loophole in MaineCare that excludes many Mainers with low incomes based on their immigration status.

WHY IT MATTERS: All Mainers - no matter where we come from - need affordable health care. But thanks to a LePage-era rule change excluding them, many Mainers are unable to access MaineCare due to their immigration status and must choose between their health and other basic needs like food and shelter. LD 199 would have ensured that our friends, family, and neighbors who are immigrants with low incomes could visit the doctor or fill a prescription when they're sick, with no exceptions or exclusions.

WHAT HAPPENED: Speaker Rachel Talbot-Ross has for years led the charge to restore health care access to eligible Mainers, introducing the bill once again this session. This year, the bill died after passing the Senate but not the House. Advocates have pledged to continue the fight.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 337

SENATE ROLL CALL: 477

(House voted to pass a version of the bill that changed the start date. The Senate voted to insist on their earlier vote not to pass the bill.)



LD 258, The Supplemental Budget

Sponsored by Rep. Melanie Sachs (D-Freeport).

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

This session's supplemental budget funded crucial programs, but also fell short in some areas.

It established our paid family and medical leave program, expanded Maine's version of the child tax credit, and created a

"housing first" program. However, it failed to fund restoration of MaineCare access to all low-income Mainers regardless of immigration status, and did not fund an increase in the minimum wage. And while it did not expand tax cuts for the wealthy, it established a \$55-million-per-year tax break that will disproportionately help big businesses.

WHY IT MATTERS: While this budget has shortcomings, it will reduce chronic homelessness, support low-income families, and allow Maine families to take care of themselves or a loved one in times of illness or other crises without going into debt, risking their job or housing, or facing other terrible tradeoffs.

WHAT HAPPENED: Despite significant bipartisan consensus in the budget committee, both chambers voted largely along party lines on the floor votes. Gov. Mills then signed the budget into law.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 350

SENATE ROLL CALL: 478



LD 398, Minimum wage and basic labor protections for farmworkers

Sponsored by Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross (D-Portland)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

As originally proposed, LD 398 would have ensured overtime pay and other labor protections for farmworkers in Maine. As finally amended, LD 398 would have simply required farmworkers in Maine to be paid the minimum wage and would have defined them as employees under the law, allowing them certain other basic rights, including an optional 30-minute break after six hours of work.

WHY IT MATTERS: Farmworkers were left out of national labor laws over the last century, in large part because they are often people of color. Maine is one of just 19 states that hasn't yet corrected this injustice when it comes to the application of minimum wage protections. Currently, many Maine farmworkers can legally be paid as little as \$7.25 an hour, the federal minimum wage.

WHAT HAPPENED: The bill passed in both the House and the Senate. It was amended at Gov. Mills' request to remove "concerted activity" rights, which would have protected farmworkers from being fired for discussing their working

conditions and wages with one another. Despite this weakening of the bill and support and collaboration from the governor's own staff, Mills vetoed the legislation.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 296

SENATE ROLL CALL: 474



LD 535, Increased access to gender-affirming health care

Sponsored by Rep. Erin Sheehan (D-Biddeford)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

This bill would allow some 16 and 17-year-old Mainers who have been diagnosed with gender dysphoria to receive nonsurgical, medically necessary, gender-affirming hormone therapy even if they have parents who would attempt to deny them this care.

WHY IT MATTERS: A majority of LGBTQ young people don't live in affirming homes. 41% have considered suicide and far too many have harmed themselves. This law will allow a small group of transgender minors diagnosed with gender dysphoria who are able to navigate the health care system even with their parents' opposition to gain needed treatment. It will help them to avoid fully experiencing irrevocable changes from going through the puberty of the gender opposite their own.

WHAT HAPPENED: The bill passed in both the House and the Senate and was signed into law by Gov. Janet Mills.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 347

SENATE ROLL CALL: 465



LD 691, Prohibiting Tenant Application Fees

Sponsored by Rep. Chris Kessler (D-Cape Elizabeth/South Portland)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

This bill prohibits landlords from charging potential tenants a fee to submit a rental application. Landlords are still allowed to charge for actual costs related to conducting a one-time background

check, credit check, or other screening once a year. The bill was originally broader, but was amended to reduce its scope.

WHY IT MATTERS: Tenants in Maine are routinely charged \$35 and more to apply to rent units across the state. Those fees add up quickly in a tight housing market when people often have to apply to numerous landlords before securing housing and can prevent people from even applying for housing when it becomes available. By limiting landlords to charging fees only for the actual costs incurred for background checks, prospective tenants are more likely to be able to apply for consideration, only being charged once they reach a screening phase.

WHAT HAPPENED: The amended bill passed both houses (no Senate roll call) and Gov. Janet Mills signed it into law.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 265

NO SENATE ROLL CALL



LD 701, Extending Notice of Rent Increases

Sponsored by Rep. Chris Kessler (D-Cape Elizabeth/South Portland)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

This bill requires landlords to provide 75 days written notice if they are increasing the rent charged for residential estate by 10% or more. Smaller rent increases continue to require 45 days written notice.

WHY IT MATTERS: Rent increases are common in the current housing market. When tenants have short notice of needing to find new housing or find a way to cover a rent increase, that limits their options. In Maine, over a third of renters already pay more than 30% of their income on housing, and two thirds of extremely low income households pay more than 60% of their income on housing. These unsustainable conditions put Maine renters at high risk of homelessness. It is critical we increase the time they have to navigate any rent increases.

WHAT HAPPENED: After being amended in committee, the bill passed both houses and became law without the governor's signature.

NO HOUSE ROLL CALL

SENATE ROLL CALL: 432



LD 1155, Making legislative service more accessible by raising salaries

Sponsored by Rep. David Woodsome (R-Waterboro)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

Legislators currently only earn under \$28,000 for each two-year legislative term. Starting after the next election, legislators will earn \$45,000 per term.

WHY IT MATTERS: Low pay creates an immense structural barrier to legislative service for people of color, young people, and Mainers with low incomes. The combination of the extremely low pay and enormous time commitment prevents qualified people from serving and leads many who do to struggle financially. There are vital perspectives left underrepresented or even missing from the conversation because too many Mainers cannot afford to serve. That limits how representative and responsive state government can be to the needs of everyday Mainers.

WHAT HAPPENED: The bill passed both houses (the House passed the bill without a roll call). The Appropriations and Financial Affairs committee voted to fund the bill, and on July 26, Governor Mills signed LD 1155 into law.

SENATE ROLL CALL: 496
NO HOUSE ROLL CALL



LD 1338, Including more wealthy households in the estate tax

Sponsored by Rep. Ben Collings (D-Portland)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

Starting in 2012, former Gov. Paul LePage and GOP lawmakers raised the estate tax threshold, below which the estate tax does not apply, from \$1 million to \$5.6 million for individuals or \$11.2 million for joint estates of married couples. Rep. Collings' bill would have lowered the exclusion amount back to \$3 million for individuals, still much higher than it was in 2011. It would have also created a higher threshold of \$4 million for family

farms and aquaculture, fishing and wood harvesting businesses.

WHY IT MATTERS: Slashing the estate tax has allowed more and more wealth to accumulate at the top, tax-free. That perpetuates inequality across generations, as the wealthiest families leverage their abundant resources to increase their share of the economic pie and pass their wealth on to their heirs.

WHAT HAPPENED: An amended version of the bill passed the House, but it failed in the Senate.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 301 (to approve "ought not to pass" report)

NO SENATE ROLL CALL



LD 1364 Creating harm reduction health centers

sponsored by Rep. Grayson Lookner (D-Portland)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

The original version of LD 1364 would have allowed communities the choice to approve safe consumption sites for people to self-administer previously obtained drugs in qualified centers that satisfy certain requirements, including providing hygienic facilities and safe disposal, providing naloxone as needed and making referrals to medical and social services. The version that passed directs the governor's office to convene a working group and submit a report by February 2025 on harm reduction centers.

WHY IT MATTERS: In 2022, a record 716 Mainers died from drug overdoses. Harm reduction health centers have a proven track record of saving lives. In the fourteen countries and two U.S. states that have safe consumption sites, there has not been a single case of anyone dying. Denying Maine communities the choice to open harm reduction health centers will undoubtedly cost lives, and giving Mainers that chance will save them.

WHAT HAPPENED: LD 1364 passed the House with bipartisan support, but lost in the Senate. An amended version of the bill that converted it into a study passed both chambers without a roll call and Gov. Mills signed it into law.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 235
SENATE ROLL CALL: 401
(House and the Senate votes on a motion to accept the amended committee report)



LD 1365, Requiring photo ID to vote

Sponsored by Rep. Reagan Paul (R-Winterport)

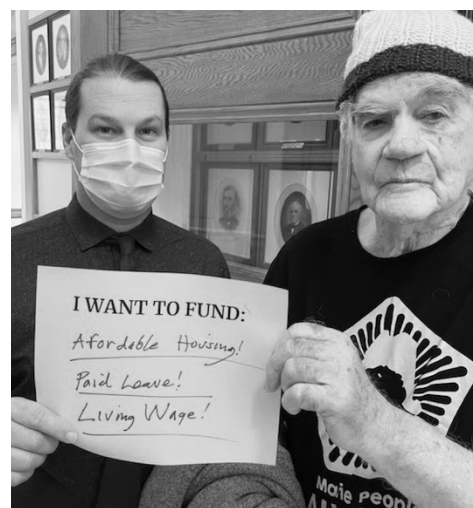
X MPA OPPOSED

LD 1365 would have required voters to present an approved form of photograph voter identification in order to vote.

WHY IT MATTERS: Voter ID laws and the rhetoric that surrounds them are deliberately designed to undermine trust in elections and suppress the vote. According to the Brennan Center for Justice, "as many as 11% of eligible voters do not have the kind of ID that is required by states with strict ID requirements, and that percentage is even higher among seniors, minorities, people with disabilities, low-income voters, and students."

WHAT HAPPENED: In party-line votes, both the House and Senate rejected Rep. Paul's measure. Now she and Minority Leader Billy Bob Faulkham are attempting to put it on the ballot in 2024.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 283
SENATE ROLL CALL: 422
(Both chambers voted on the "Ought Not to Pass" committee report. A "yea" vote is a vote against the bill.)



LD 1376, A \$15 state minimum wage

Sponsored by Rep. Benjamin Collings (D-Portland)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

The amended version of LD 1376 would have raised Maine's minimum wage (currently \$13.80) to \$15 in January 2024, with continued increases each year after, pegged to the cost of living.

WHY IT MATTERS: A \$15 minimum wage has been a core organizing goal for anti-poverty and workers' rights advocates across the country for nearly a decade. While inflation may have made the \$15 figure a bit less meaningful, raising the wage from the \$14.60 projected next year to \$15 would put millions of dollars into

the pockets of 127,000 low-income Maine workers and their families.

WHAT HAPPENED: The bill passed by one vote in the House and by a wider margin in the Senate, despite opposition from Gov. Mills. But it was left out of the budget and Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee members chose not to provide funding to increase wages for state workers, quietly killing the popular legislation.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 189
SENATE ROLL CALL: 317



LD 1847, Labor standards for offshore wind development

Sponsored by Sen. Chip Curry (D-Waldo)

✓ MPA SUPPORTED

This bill, originally proposed by Gov. Janet Mills to modify visual impact standards to allow the creation of a port for offshore wind power development, was modified by requiring any development to abide by certain labor standards, including for wages and registered apprenticeships.

WHY IT MATTERS: The legislation was designed to ensure that any offshore wind development would create high-quality jobs for Maine workers as well as make the projects more likely to receive federal funding, as the U.S. departments of Transportation, Commerce and the Interior are prioritizing funding for projects with strong labor standards. Offshore wind power development is a key plank in Maine's response plan to address and prepare for climate change.

WHAT HAPPENED: LD 1847 passed by wide margins in both the House and Senate, but Gov. Mills chose to veto her own bill rather than allow the strong labor standards to go into law. The legislature was unable to override her veto but lawmakers and union and environmental advocates eventually reached an agreement with the governor and passed a compromise bill, LD 1895, which contained some wage and benefit standards for offshore wind workers. The governor signed that bill into law.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 161
SENATE ROLL CALL: 467



LD 1964, Paid family and medical leave for all Maine workers

Sponsored by Sen. Matthea Daughtry (D-Cumberland) and Rep. Kristen Cloutier (D-Lewiston)

✓ **MPA SUPPORTED**

LD 1964 creates a program to provide up to 12 weeks of leave for all Maine workers, regardless of who they work for and whether they work part-time, full-time, or seasonally or are self-employed, to care for themselves or a loved one when they bring a new child home, during a serious injury or illness, or in certain other circumstances. The program is funded through payroll contributions

from both employers and employees, and employees taking leave are paid through a state fund similar to the unemployment insurance system. The plan is based on the report from the Maine Commission on Paid Family and Medical Leave.

WHY IT MATTERS: No matter who we are and what we do for a living, we should be able to take time to care for our loved ones when crisis strikes, without risking our jobs or housing, or making other terrible tradeoffs.

Most of us will have that need at some point in our lives. But most people don't have access to paid leave that allows them to take that time. A comprehensive PFML program in Maine will give all workers, including the huge numbers of Mainers who work for small businesses or for themselves, the flexibility and security to deal with life's most disruptive events without jeopardizing their financial stability, employment, or health insurance.

WHAT HAPPENED: LD 1964 passed and was signed into law by Gov. Janet Mills as part of the state supplemental budget.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 328
SENATE ROLL CALL: 414



LD 2004, Restoring Wabanaki access to beneficial federal laws

Sponsored by House Speaker Rachel Talbot-Ross (D-Portland)

✓ **MPA SUPPORTED**

LD 2004 would have amended the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act and the Aroostook Band of Micmacs

Settlement Act so that the Wabanaki tribes could benefit from most existing and future federal laws that apply to the other 570 federally recognized tribes.

WHY IT MATTERS: Excluding Maine tribes from the benefits associated with federal laws has had grave economic and societal consequences. While tribes included in federal laws have seen a 61% increase in economic growth over the last four decades, Maine's subjugation of the tribes' self-governance has led to much slower growth, just 9%. Suppressing economic growth for Maine tribes limits economic opportunity for our entire state.

WHAT HAPPENED: Gov. Mills vetoed the bill, and in spite of bipartisan supporters' and the tribes' best efforts to create a veto-proof majority, the veto stood.

HOUSE ROLL CALL: 348
SENATE ROLL CALL: 425

(Senate vote to pass the committee report and the House vote to overturn Governor Mills' veto of the bill.)

FAQs

What are the issues you included in the scorecard?

The range of bills we scored touched upon a number of issues, including access to health care and housing, tax fairness, criminal justice reform, tribal sovereignty, workers rights, climate change, and racial justice.

Why are some bills scored in the House and not the Senate, and vice-versa?

We score bills that received a "roll call" vote (where the individual "yes" or "no" votes on a bill are recorded). Not

every bill receives a "roll call" in both chambers. Sometimes that's because the vote was never taken up by one of the chambers. Other times it's because the bill passed "under the hammer," meaning unanimously. We can't score a bill if we don't know how each legislator voted on it, so there are a few cases where we could only score it in the House or the Senate.

Do absences count against legislators?

We at MPA believe in the importance of having a legislature led by everyday Mainers. However, the challenges of being a working person or someone with caretaking responsibilities makes legislative duties increasingly difficult for some lawmakers. As such, we do not

count absences against a lawmaker's score as we hope it more accurately reflects who votes to support progressive policies in Maine.

I'd like to share the scorecard with my friends and neighbors. Is there an online version?

Yes! You can find it at mpascorecard.org. Thanks for sharing!

What do I do with this information?

First: Please share this scorecard. Every Mainer has the right to know how their elected officials voted, and whether they were actually representing their constituents—or the interests of the

super-rich or wealthy corporations.

Second: Get involved. Write or call your legislator to tell them your thoughts on their votes. And the ultimate form of accountability? Elections. You can see if your legislators are up for re-election when you look up their score. Happy with how they voted? Volunteer to knock on some doors, make phone calls, and help get them back in office. Unhappy with their score? Volunteer with the person challenging them.

Who do I talk to if I have any other questions about the scorecard?

Email MPA lobbyist Adam Zuckerman at Adam@mainepeoplesalliance.org.



Beacon is a website and podcast created by the Maine People's Alliance to highlight the experiences of everyday Mainers, share information about the political and policy processes that affect Maine people, and promote a progressive world view based on community, fairness, and investing in the future.

Beacon features rigorous reporting, political analysis, and smart, progressive voices from across the state.

You can follow our work at MaineBeacon.com

Gov. Janet Mills Advances Abortion Rights, Housing First, Childcare Affordability and More, Vetoes Farmworker and Tribal Rights Bills

Governor	Party	2023 SCORE	LD 258	LD 398	LD 535	LD 691	LD 1155	LD 1847	LD 1964	LD 2004
MILLS, JANET	D	63%	SIGNED	VETO	SIGNED	SIGNED	SIGNED	VETO	SIGNED	VETO

This year, Gov. Janet Mills supported significant investments in affordable housing and education, including Speaker Talbot-Ross' housing-first proposal, extending public commitments to free community college, and fighting hunger with free school meals. Mills also put her weight behind important pieces of legislation to protect and expand access to abortion in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

She signed several bills that will make a big difference for many Mainers, including legislation to establish a robust paid family and medical leave program in Maine, policies to create a "housing first" program, modernization of Maine's version of the child tax credit, and reforms to help address Maine's serious childcare shortage.

Mills also signed bills to raise legislator salaries, to create high-quality green jobs through investments in Maine's wind power sector, and to support gender-affirming care for older teenagers.

Unfortunately though, these investments came alongside Mills' ongoing refusal to raise state revenue by taxing the wealthy, and tax and cash giveaways that strongly hindered the state government's ability to take action on some of our most urgent needs.

In December, 2022, she spent nearly \$400M on \$450 energy relief checks to Mainers, including households making up to \$200k/year. This decision ate up nearly the entire budget surplus, making it much more challenging to fund transformational initiatives in hous-



ing, healthcare, criminal justice, and care.

And this spring, Mills' proposed budget created a large, ongoing corporate subsidy that will cost the state tens of millions of dollars per year that could be used to directly address Mainers' needs.

With her vetoes, Mills stood in the way of addressing several systemic racial inequalities in our state:

Consistent with her past stances on tribal rights and in spite of a massive public campaign and bipartisan support in both houses of the legislature, Mills vetoed a bill to ensure that the Wabanaki have access to most federal laws that benefit Indigenous tribes around the country.

She also vetoed a bill to extend minimal labor rights to Maine's agricultural workers, who are disproportionately Black, Latino, and

Indigenous. The bill would have protected farmworkers from being forced to work more than 80 hours of overtime in a consecutive two-week period, from being forced to work more than six hours without being offered a break to rest, and from earning a minimum wage of only \$7.25/hour. These vetoes follow a pattern of Mills often valuing industry voices over those of marginalized workers.

MPA members have often felt frustrated by Mills' lack of support for the progressive policies on the issues most important to Maine workers and families, like housing and health care.

Mills did show, however, that she can be moved. In the last year, MPA, Maine Women's Lobby, and many other organizations led a signature campaign to put the creation of a ro-

bust paid family and medical leave program on the ballot, and Mainers from all around the state worked together to gather more than 80,000 signatures.

Mills initially opposed the paid family and medical leave policy proposed in the referendum, but eventually signed a similar policy advanced by the legislature with some changes she proposed. She cited the referendum campaign as the reason for her decision to reverse course and support a strong paid family and medical leave program.

While Mills did not support a number of priority issues for MPA members this session, we know that her positions can be moved with enough public pressure. We urge MPA members to keep speaking up!

131st Legislative Session at a Glance



The first year of the 131st legislative session was historic for Maine People's Alliance and our state. Mainers' activism and advocacy helped create some landmark victories, including passing paid family and medical leave, expansion of Maine's child tax credit, improvements in our childcare system, policies to make Maine's housing crisis less painful for the people hurt most by it, an increase in legislator pay that will allow people with lower incomes to run for office, and meaningful action on both the climate emergency and our state's green jobs industry.

At the same time, some of the boldest and most progressive legislation was defeated or held over, especially when it ran up against wealthy and powerful lobbying interests; and we continued to come up against a "scarcity" mindset that cruelly pits people against one another, even as the state set up ongoing tax breaks for wealthy corporations. And, once again, we found that righting wrongs rooted in xenophobia and racism is much, much harder than it should be.

In the last year, we were reminded of something again that we've long known – when we work together, we can win.

Because Maine urgently needs a strong paid family and medical leave program for all workers, MPA, Maine Women's Lobby, and many other organizations led a signature campaign to put the creation of a robust program on the ballot.

Mainers from all around the state worked together to gather more

than 80,000 signatures. The pressure that this put on lawmakers and Gov. Janet Mills led directly to the passage of a very similar program this July.

There were some other major victories for children and families in Maine. These included the passage and funding of a bill to fix a major flaw in the design of the state version of the child tax credit, making it fully refundable so the families who most need the credit will finally have access to it; and a bill to help address Maine's serious childcare shortage by improving compensation to childcare workers, making it easier for the owners of childcare centers to provide care for families with scholarships and subsidies, and ensuring more Maine kids are eligible for Head Start programs.

MPA worked with a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers to raise legislator salaries, making it easier for people who are younger, have lower incomes, and who have less flexible jobs to serve as elected officials. This new law, which raises legislators' pay from just under \$28,000 to a still-extremely-modest \$45,000 for the two-year session, could play a major role in helping the legislature better reflect the people of our state.

The progress we made this session on these vital issues has been inspiring, and more importantly, these policies will make life better for people all around our state. The same is true for the new policies around Maine's wind power industry, which will make Maine an important part of our region's shift to renewable energy sources and support the creation of more green jobs.

Unfortunately, though, this session has also been marked by compromise and delay.

Gov. Janet Mills and the legislature deserve credit for proposing, passing and funding important housing first programs, which will make a substantial difference for Mainers experiencing chronic homelessness. At the same time, several critical bills designed to combat the state's acute housing crisis by creating new support and protections for renters ran up against strong opposition. This came from landlords' lobbying groups and was often based on the broadly-held belief that property rights are sacred and absolute. Those bills died in committee or were held over.

Similarly, the legislature passed a landmark wind power bill that will create high-quality green jobs – but several other climate priorities were defeated or held over.

In spite of the escalating overdose crisis in Maine, a bill to permit communities to establish harm reduction health centers (also known as safe injection sites) did not have quite enough votes to pass, but the legislature did pass and fund a bill for a study of such centers.

At a time when so many Mainers' needs (for housing, healthcare, childcare, and more) are not being met, the governor also made the decision to create the Dirigo Business Incentive Program, a large, ongoing corporate subsidy that will rob this state of tens of millions of dollars in revenue that could be used for proven strategies to directly address those needs and build our state's future.

And disappointingly, there was steep resistance from some corners of the legislature in addressing Maine's long legacy of racial injustice. These included defeating a bill to restore MaineCare health coverage to low-income Mainers regardless of their immigration status, which the Senate voted down; and failures to override vetoes on two major bills: One to ensure that the Wabanaki have access to most federal laws that benefit Indigenous tribes around the country, and one to extend fairly minimal labor rights to Maine's agricultural workers.

Change is hard, and policies that make sweeping change inevitably run up against resistance from entrenched institutions who stand to lose money or power as ordinary people gain influence. But, as we saw, when everyday people get organized and push back, we can win.

We're excited about continuing to help MPA members push for the things we all care about, and to keep fighting for a world where everyone has what they need, contributes what they can, and no one is left behind.



Special Mentions

On the floor and behind the scenes, these legislators went above and beyond in service of their constituents, and championed all Mainers—regardless of who they are, where they're from and how much money they have in the bank—on the issues about which they feel most passionate. Thank you!

Housing Heroes

Reps. Cheryl Golek, (D-Harpswell), **Chris Kessler** (D-South Portland) and **Ambureen Rana** (D-Bangor) worked to protect everyone's human right to housing and change the way we make sure everyone has a place to call home.

Most Tireless Visionary

Speaker Rachel Talbot-Ross (D-Portland) for championing inclusion in MaineCare for everyone who is income eligible regardless of immigration status, tribal sovereignty, farmworker rights, and "Housing First" wraparound services for people experiencing chronic homelessness.

Most Likely to Stand Strong in the Face of Powerful Opposition

Sen. Matthea Daughtry (D-Cumberland) and **Rep. Kristen Cloutier**

(D-Lewiston) for their work championing paid family and medical leave.

Labor Leaders

Labor and Housing Committee Chairs **Sen. Mike Tipping** (D-Orono) and **Rep. Amy Roeder** (D-Bangor) for shepherding major priorities in the Labor Committee, including: paid family and medical leave, overtime protections, increasing the minimum wage, and strengthening farmworker rights.

Fighter for Fairness

Rep. Laurie Osher (D-Orono) for leading on trans rights, income tax fairness, and the bipartisan effort to raise salaries for legislators, making public service more accessible for all Mainers.

Budget Bosses

Appropriations and Financial Affairs Chairs **Rep. Melanie Sachs** (D-Freeport) and **Sen. Peggy Rontundo** (D-Lewiston) for shepherding a historic budget that established our state's paid family and medical leave program, expanded our child tax credit to include low-income families, and expanded access to child care for Maine families.



**MAINE
SMALL BUSINESS
COALITION**

MSBC is proud to represent over 3,000 businesses across Maine!

As small business owners, we advocate for policies that promote responsible economic development, environmental stewardship, and investment in community.



To become a member or stay up to date on what we're working on, contact Selecca Bulgar-Medina at selecca@mainepeoplesalliance.org



"I am proud to be including MPA in my will. I've been fed by MPA, physically and spiritually, far in excess of what I will pledge upon my departure. MPA and its leaders and volunteers give me much hope for the future of Maine and I look forward to helping MPA for years to come."

-Rafael Macias,
MPA member leader from Topsham

Will you join MPA in securing the movement for generations to come?

In Maine, over \$73 million is donated in bequests each year to non-profit organizations. To stay the course across generations, it is critical that Maine People's Alliance can access these resources to continue to equip Maine people to lead progressive change.

We want to be here to continue this work and support every generation as they arrive to this movement.

We have launched our planned giving program, designed to allow you and your family to leave a legacy at MPA.

Join us.



HELP KEEP MPA GOING STRONG BY JOINING OUR PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM



Maine People's Alliance

How We Won Paid Family and Medical Leave for Maine

In June of this year, Gov. Janet Mills published an op-ed in the Press Herald in which she described the ballot campaign for a universal paid family and medical leave program in Maine as the deciding factor in her choice to support the bill.

Mills' support was a major victory, and it came thanks to the efforts of organizations and individuals all over Maine who helped to gather more than 80,000 signatures.

Advocates had been trying to pass comprehensive paid family and medical leave in Maine for decades, without success. So, how did we get here? Unsurprisingly, it's a story that involves ordinary Mainers coming together to use our power.

We know that most people support paid family and medical leave, but understanding that it would face opposition from powerful members of the business community and pos-

sibly from the governor, supporters took a two-pronged approach.

A 2021 bill set up a legislative commission to design a paid leave program for Maine, and the commission's work answered fundamental questions about how we could set up a robust, universal program in our state. Throughout the process, paid family and medical leave in Maine had committed champions in Sen. Mattie Daughtry (D-Cumberland) and Rep. Kristen Cloutier (D-Lewiston). They worked tirelessly on the commission, and then later to develop and pass paid leave legislation.

At the same time, a broad campaign of supporters led by Maine Women's Lobby and MPA also made the decision to gather signatures for a potential referendum to create a paid family leave program. The massive effort gave signature gatherers a chance to talk with

people in every county and spread the word that paid family and medical leave was possible in Maine and would be good for all Mainers.

Organizations involved in the legislative and ballot campaigns represented immigrants, older people, trans people, parents, low-income workers, and small business owners, and included policy experts, lobbying groups, direct service organizations and health care providers.

Whether we're talking about the public referendum or the legislative effort, one thing that we know is that we would not have won paid family leave in Maine without the incredible work of people across the state who shared their stories of what paid leave meant to them.

In the news, in testimony, and all throughout the process, we heard from people who were caring for

loved ones who were sick, injured, or needed long-term care, or who themselves were going through life events that meant they needed time away from work. We heard from people who had suffered great losses because they didn't have access to paid family leave, and others who looked forward to the positive impacts it would have on their small businesses.

Paid family and medical leave has been a long time coming in Maine, and the comprehensive program we all worked together to pass this year will give all workers - including the huge numbers of Mainers who work for small businesses or for themselves - the flexibility and security to deal with life's most disruptive events without jeopardizing their financial stability, employment, or health insurance. That's something for us all to be proud of.



When you're ready to run for office, let us be your team!



**MOVEMENT
BUILDING MAINE**

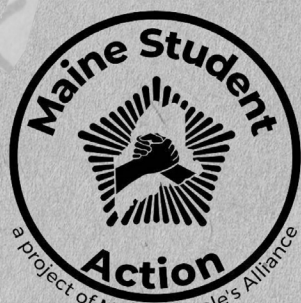
Together we'll make sure that everyone, from all walks of life, can run and serve.

For more information, contact Rachel Ackoff at rachel@mainepeoplesalliance.org

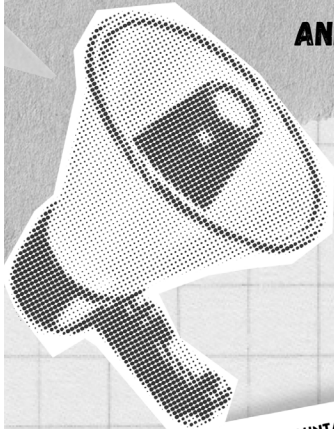
**PEOPLE
POWER
PROGRESS!**



**HELP KEEP MPA GOING
STRONG WITH A
CONTRIBUTION TODAY**



MAINE STUDENT ACTION IS A CROSS-CAMPUS COMMUNITY THAT EMPOWERS STUDENTS TO BECOME LEADERS AT THEIR SCHOOLS AND IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.



LUCCA FROM UMAINE:
"MSA has provided me with ways to act on a lot of the things I talk about and the beliefs I hold dear. It's helped me to see what I can do and where I can help better my community. But mostly, it's helped me to see that students are part of this political process, too, and perhaps it's time us students took ownership of that fact."

MIRAYLA FROM MOUNTAIN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL AND BATES:
"Being involved with Maine Student Action has been one of the most fulfilling experiences I've ever had. I have always enjoyed giving back to my community, and MSA allows me to do that on another level, which I love! It's hard work, but the people you meet along the way are always so friendly and have the same goals as you: to make the world a better place where everyone feels welcome."



**TO GET INVOLVED WITH MAINE STUDENT ACTION
EMAIL:
ESTHER@MAINEPEOPLESALLIANCE.ORG**



**Make your
voice heard!**

Join our member lobby team today

For more information, contact Amy Larkin at amyjanejane@gmail.com

