

# WHAT'S UP IN AUGUSTA?

Issue 3





January 9, 2023

## **Happy New Year!**

The 131st Maine Legislature returned from holiday break on Wednesday, January 4th at 10am. Over the break, committee selections were made. *The committees* are each essential to the bill process as they are responsible for conducting public hearing and listening to testimony—for or against the proposed bill. The committee then puts forth a general recommendation to be heard in the first chamber (House or Senate) and is a crucial player in the *proposed bills' fate*.



### You're Invited!



Please join us on *January 24th from 4pm-6pm at the Senator Inn*, *In Augusta* for a Legislative Meet & Greet with Maine Senators and House Representatives. No RSVP required, just stop by, meet and mingle and enjoy some refreshments!

Please contact *Claire* with any questions.

#### **New Bills?**

When do the new legislative bills start being released? ( GREAT question!)

As of January 6th, the Maine Legislature has released **127 Legislative Documents** (otherwise referred to as "LDs"). Your MAR Legislative Committee has already began discussing and monitoring bills that are relevant to our industry.



## **Know Anyone Serving?**

Do you know any legislators serving in the 131st? Would you be willing to contact them on behalf of your REALTORS® association during the current legislative session? If so, please send those names to: *Suzanne*. Include how you know them (relative, friend, business associate, etc.)

#### LD 2003, now Maine Public Law 672:

"On April 27, 2022, Governor Mills signed into law *L.D. 2003, An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions.* The law aims to facilitate the creation of additional housing units throughout the State. The Department of Economic & Community Development is responsible for implementing this law, including by establishing statewide housing production goals and adopting rules by which to administer and enforce certain zoning and land use provisions" -- *Maine Department of Economic and Community Development* 

DECD expects to release its proposed rule for public comments in February. Rule making should conclude in April 2023 with implementation beginning in July 2023. We will share details as they are released as to how this will impact you, your clients and your community.

# Save the Dates



Tuesday, January 24, 2023 4pm-6pm Legislative Meet & Greet

Mingle with your State Senators and Representatives.
Hors d'oeuvres & refreshments
No registration required, just stop by!





Thursday, April 6, 2023

REALTOR® Rally Day

Returning to the Hall of Flags!

Participate in-person at the State House

or virtually



#### **ACT when the time comes:**

Help be a part of Maine REALTORS® advocacy efforts: Text "REALTORS" to 30644 to opt into REALTOR® Party Mobile alerts to be the first to act with a tap of your phone!

Questions? Feel free to email Claire@mainerealtors.com

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Maine Association of REALTORS® | 19 Community Drive, Augusta, ME 04330

Unsubscribe tanya@mainerealtors.com

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Sent byclaire@mainerealtors.comin collaboration with

