

# WHAT'S UP IN AUGUSTA?

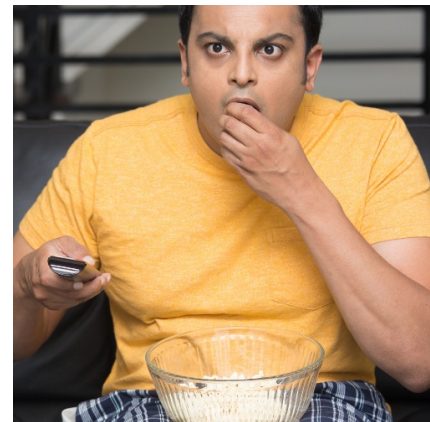
Issue 7



March 6, 2023

## LD Watch List:

Each session there are legislative bills that are put forth that become priority issues for MAR. As hearings are scheduled, MAR will provide testimony for or against based on the MAR Legislative Committee's discussion and agreed upon positioning. As always, our positioning is guided by our [Public Policy Statement](#). Below are a few top priority bills **so far** that we are keeping a close watch on and will be actively engaging on:



--[LD 851: An Act to Clarify That Maine Holds Title to Its Intertidal](#)

[Lands](#)-- **1 Oppose (IT'S BACK.)** Exact to the Bill we defeated in 2019. Summary: State would own the intertidal lands.

--[LD226: An Act to Address Maine's Affordable Housing Crisis](#)-- **2 Support** Summary: Provide funding in amount of \$1 Million to the Maine's Housing Fund from the general fund during each FY2023-24 and FY2024-25 to increase housing stock

--[LD 214: An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Zoning and Land Use Restrictions to Limit Certain Requirements to Municipalities with a Population of More than 10,000](#)-- **2 Oppose** Summary: Policies approved in [LD 2003](#) would be applicable to municipalities of *ONLY* 10,000 or more (22 of 500 municipalities in Maine are +10K)

--[LD 557: An Act to Decrease Discrimination Based on Evictions in Housing Applications](#) **2 Oppose** Summary: Prohibits property owner or listing agency from being able to ask about eviction history as part of tenant application screening process on the basis of it being discriminatory.

--[LD 667: An Act to Impose a Tax Surcharge on Certain Incomes](#) **2 Oppose** Summary: income tax surcharge of 3% on over \$1 million and 6% on over \$10 million- Requires collected revenue be spent on K12 education and rural economic development

--LD 804: [An Act to Increase the Time Period for Notice to Terminate a Tenancy at Will](#)**2 Oppose** Summary: Increase tenancy at will notice from 30 days under current law to 90 days

--LD 843: [An Act to Improve Income Tax Progressivity by Establishing a New Top Individual Income Tax Rate](#) **2 Oppose** Summary: Establishes additional income tax bracketing with a higher rate of 11.15% for certain income levels and filing statuses.



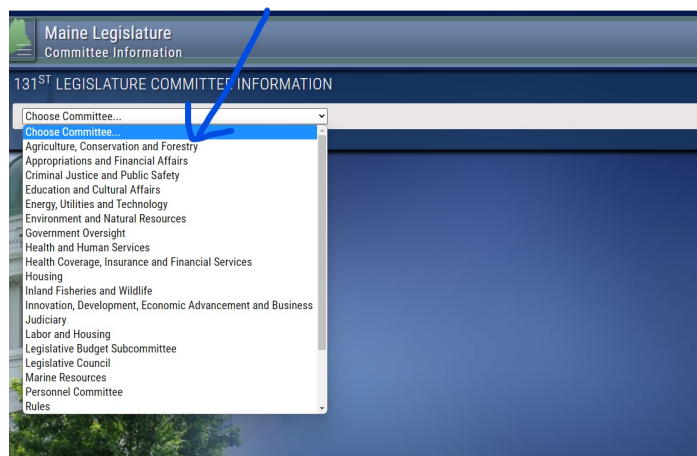
## BUT that's NOT all...

Be sure to check our [most recent bill tracking report](#) to stay in touch with all of the issues relevant to our industry. As noted previously there is a historic number of concept drafts which makes monitoring a task within itself-- these bills can quickly

go one way or the other, so we will keep a close eye on them as they evolve.

## Provide Testimony or Listen to LD Public Hearings:

Bills are assigned to a committee to conduct "work sessions" and to conduct public hearings. MAR's Government Affairs Team often listen to these sessions and will share when Public Hearings for top priority bills occur. MAR provides testimony on any 1-3 priority bill. To listen to hearings live, visit the [Maine Legislature website](#) and select the hosting committee from the drop down at the top. \*You can also read/listen to MAR testimony via that link.



## Upcoming Public Hearings:

*Thursday, March 8th @ 1pm:* Energy, Utilities & Tech Committee, [Listen: Live Cross Building, Rm 211](#)

LD 524: An Act Requiring the Installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in New Commercial and Multifamily Parking Lot Construction (3-NFNA)

*Thursday, March 9th @ 2pm:* Judiciary Committee, [Listen: Live State House, Rm 438](#)

LD 557: An Act to Decrease Discrimination Based on Evictions in Housing Applications (2-O)

LD 701: An Act to Increase the Notice Period for Rent Increases (3-O)

## REALTOR® Rally Day Registration is Now OPEN:

Join us for the return of [Maine REALTOR® Rally Day](#) at the Maine State House, Hall of Flags for the first time since 2019!

### Issues of interest:

Intertidal Zone- Takings

 **MAINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®**  
Your Real Estate Experts

# REALTOR® RALLY

Thursday, April 6th in Augusta

**9am-10:30am**  
**Governor Hill Mansion, 136 State St, Augusta**  
REALTOR® Rally Legislative Briefing with MAR Gov't Affairs Team and invited guests: Maine's Legislators who are REALTORS® Complete your invitations to Legislators for lunch.

**10:45am-1:30pm**  
**Hall of Flags at the Maine State House, Augusta**  
RALLY with REALTORS® and MAR Legislative Members  
View the Senate and House in action from their galleries

**Issues of interest:**  
Intertidal Zone- Takings  
Zoning and Land Use Ordinances  
Tenant and Property Owner Rights  
Housing Supply  
Income Tax Surcharge

**Protect your industry and your business! Includes Lunch with your Legislators (no cost)**

**I ACT**  
#REALTORParty

**Register Online:**  
<https://bit.ly/MRR2023RSVP>

Registration Deadline – Friday, March 31st  
For additional information contact: [claire@mainerealtors.com](mailto:claire@mainerealtors.com) or (207) 622-7501

Zoning and Land Use Ordinances  
Tenant and Property Owner Rights  
Housing Supply  
Income Tax Surcharge

#### Schedule:

**9:00am –10:30am REALTOR® Rally Legislative**

**Briefing Location:** Governor Hill Mansion, 136 State Street, Augusta *Talking points, complete invitations to your Legislators for lunch: MAR Government Affairs Team and REALTOR® Member Legislative Caucus*

**10:45am – 1:30pm RALLY and Lunch with REALTORS® and Legislators**

**Location:** Hall of Flags, at the Maine State House (2nd Floor), Augusta  
*View the Senate and House in action from their galleries*

**Register for RALLY DAY  
Now!**

You will be able to ACT from anywhere and participate in our Call for Action either through our advocacy website or via text. More details regarding the event will be distributed soon. Please text the word **"REALTORS"** to **30644**, to activate **REALTOR® Party Mobile Alerts**.



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