

WHAT'S UP IN AUGUSTA?

Issue 13



May 29, 2023



Attention Housing Providers

Do you have property you currently lease? If so, you are on the chopping block during the 131st! MAR has been actively engaging on 10 different property owner/tenant rights related bills so far this session. Several of these bills would enact stricter regulations, push an additional cost burden on property owners and restrict business practices for private property owners who choose to lease their units. Just last week, MAR conducted outreach to REALTOR® members who are constituents of Joint Standing Committee members at the Maine Legislature who were hosting work sessions on high priority bills. MAR encouraged the "Ought Not to Pass" vote and continues to urge you to contact your legislators to vote "NO" on these proposed regulations.

Below are a few priority bills that MAR has been actively working to defeat:

-LD 1905: An Act to Create a Residential Rental Unit Registry (1-Oppose) Statewide rental registry.

-LD 1574: An Act to Create Rent Stabilization and Amend the Laws Regarding Termination of Tenancy and Rent Increase Limitations (1-Oppose) Statewide rent control.

-LD 804: An Act to Increase the Time Period for Notice to Terminate a Tenancy at Will (1-Oppose)

-LD 1490: An Act to Reduce Rental Housing Costs by Eliminating Additional Fees at or Prior to the Commencement of Tenancy (2-Oppose) Restricts fees that can be charged.

[Find my Senator](#)

[Find my Representative](#)





Last legislative session (130th) MAR supported [LD 2023 An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Secretary of State Regarding Notarial Acts](#)--That bill was signed into law on April 21, 2022, PL 651. [The Maine Secretary of State](#) has recently released [proposed rules to integrate remote online notarization](#) into modernizing the existing laws around notaries public in Maine. A public hearing will take place on June 8, 2023, at the [Burton Cross Building, 111 Sewall Street, 4th Floor, Room 400, Augusta](#), from 1pm-3pm. Comments may be submitted to cec.notaries@maine.gov with "Rules Governing Notaries Public Comment" as the subject line. The comment deadline is June 19th by 5pm.

Better Broadband?

Signed in November 2021, the Federal Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (Infrastructure Act) included programming entitled: [The Affordable Connectivity Program \(ACP\)](#) The ACP provides eligible households with a discount on broadband service and connected devices.



[On June 20th, MAR will host a no cost "Lunch & Learn" webinar from 12pm-1pm](#) with the [Maine Connectivity Authority](#) to provide statewide updates on broadband expansion efforts in Maine and how the ACP factors into their efforts.

[Register Now!](#)



Will the Session Adjourn before July?

Due to some procedural matters, the 131st adjourned "Regular Session" on March 30th and entered into "Special Session" and is now slated to adjourn on Thursday, June 29, 2023, a week shift from the original adjournment date of June 21st. At the beginning of the session there were an expected 2300+ bills and we have reached 2000, the end is [hopefully] near!

[You can review the MAR bill tracking report here](#)

Please watch your emails for Calls for Action or assistance in outreach to help protect our industry in coming weeks!



I ACT

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