

WHAT'S UP IN AUGUSTA?

Issue 11





May 1, 2023

More than "half way there"!

As of Friday, April 28th, the 131st Maine Legislatures' first regular session has printed approximately 80% of the proposed bills. The session is slated to adjourn June 21st-- what a way to kickoff of the Summer! Based on the *April 24th Bill Tracking Report*, MAR has 362 bills we are monitoring, and we have actively engaged on 32 bills so far, and have at least 25 *if not more* remaining we will engage on. (*Our work is far from done!*)



Advocacy WINS!

LD 9: An Act to Establish Processing Time Limits for Permit by Rule Applications Under the Site Location of Development Laws 3- Support was passed to be enacted on 4/20/2023. It requires the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to decide whether an application meets applicable permitting by rule requirements within 90 calendar days, thus shortening the time period and streamlining site location development.

LD 843: An Act to Improve Income Tax Progressivity by Establishing a New Top Individual Income Tax Rate **2-Oppose** placed in dead files 4/13/2023

LD 2003 (PL 672) Update:



The Housing Opportunity Program within the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) is hosting a series of Zoom Q&A sessions to provide an opportunity for individuals to ask questions about LD 2003. No need to RSVP. If you have any questions about these sessions, please email https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/85671268128

- Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 10am-11am
- Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 10am-11am
- Tuesday, May 23, 2023, 10am-11am

• Tuesday, May 30, 2023, 10am-11am

ONE year later!

Signed by the Governor on April 27, 2022, *PL 672* now has adopted rules as of April 18, 2023, *Review them here.*



Do you have a seat at the local table?

With implementation of PL 672 coming in July, many municipalities have had an uptick in discussions around land use ordinances and updating/creating Comprehensive Plans. Be sure to check your town's website for meetings and agendas to see what is being

discussed. As an industry expert and neighbor, ensure you are part of that discussion as your business, and your community depend on it!

Bad Credit is the New Good Credit?!

As many are aware, there has been quite a stir in the last few weeks regarding loan-level price adjustments—or LLPAs and Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's changes that take effect for loans guaranteed by the agencies starting May 1st. WHY NOW are we hearing so much you ask? Many lenders began to implement the changes in March/April. Check out the below resources to find some clarification of these programs and how they may impact your clients:



- REALTOR Magazine: NAR Is Making the REALTOR® Voice Heard on LLPAs
- Mortgage News Daily: Is There Really a New, Unfair Mortgage Tax on Those With High Credit?
- NAR Advocates for FHFA to Maintain Affordability for All Homebuyers
- April 29, 2023 -- NAR Talking Points on LLPA Efforts



Maine REALTORS® head to Washington D.C. this week!

MAR will have close to 50 REALTOR® members represented at the *National Association of REALTORS® Legislative Meetings* happening May 6th-May 11th in our

nation's capital! You can learn about our *industry's national legislative priorities here*. Several of the scheduled events will be available to tune in via LIVESTREAM:

- **Sunday May 7, 8am-9:30am:** Federal Legislative & Political Forum: How Banking & Institutional Investors are Influencing the American Dream of Homeownership
- Sunday May 7 4pm-4:30pm: The Leadership Scoop
- Sunday May 7 4:30pm-5:30pm: The Advocacy Scoop
- Monday May 8, 8am-9:30am: General Session: Truth Worth Telling: A Reporter's Search for Meaning in the Stories of Our Times with Scott Pelley
- Thursday May 11th 8:30am-1pm Board of Directors Meeting



TO *ENGAGE* from *anywhere*, Please text the word "**REALTORS**" to **30644**, to activate **REALTOR® Party Mobile Alerts.**





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