



Maine Municipal Association

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www.memun.org

TO: MMA's Key Municipal Officials

FROM: John Sylvester, President, Maine Municipal Association

DATE: April 23, 2010

RE: Nominations to MMA's Legislative Policy Committee

The election season is about to get fully underway and competitive claims for bold new visions of state government are beginning to fill the air. When the next legislative session begins in January 2011, a newly-elected Legislature will inhabit the State House and a new Governor will reside in the Blaine House.

How are Maine's towns and cities going to be treated by the new Administration and Legislature? How will we characterize the intergovernmental relationship in Maine two years from now? Four years from now?

To put those questions into some context, this outgoing Legislature has overseen:

- a significant retreat on the goal of paying for 55% of public school funding with broad-based tax revenues;
- unprecedented raids on municipal revenue sharing;
- a serious weakening of the Homestead property tax exemption enacted 12 years ago; and
- deep cuts to the Tree Growth reimbursements that are so important to some of Maine's most rural communities.

So how is the new Governor going to propose dealing with a structural biennial budget deficit that some people believe will approach \$1 billion?

The Maine Municipal Association takes its direction on all questions regarding the goings-on at the State House in Maine from 70 elected and appointed municipal officials serving in towns and cities throughout the state who are chosen by their peers to serve on the Association's Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). The first task of the new LPC after it is elected will be to develop the legislative changes Maine's municipal officials believe should be submitted to the 125th Legislature. Now is the time for all the municipalities in Maine to nominate their candidates to serve on this diverse policy committee which is so vitally important to the Association.

Enclosed is a **Nomination Form** for the July 2010 – June 2012 term of the Legislative Policy Committee. The purpose of the LPC is to define municipal interests and to maximize those interests through effective participation in the legislative process.

(over)

Any elected or appointed municipal official holding office in any MMA member community is eligible to serve on the Committee. There are two seats on the LPC for each State Senate District. Members serve two-year terms, representing their own community and the other municipalities in their Senate District.

LPC activities require a minimum time commitment of approximately ten hours a month during legislative sessions, which includes attendance at the monthly meeting and contacts with other communities and legislators in the district as issues arise. MMA's strength as a municipal advocate depends on the active help of a dedicated LPC.

More information about MMA's Legislative Policy Committee and the Association's entire advocacy program can be found at MMA's website (www.memun.org) under the "Legislative/Advocacy" link. In particular, the *LPC Handbook* describes the Association's overall policy development process and procedures in more detail.

Nomination Process

Your municipality is entitled to nominate a representative to the LPC.

- The nominee may be either elected or appointed, but must be serving currently as a municipal official.
- You may nominate any municipal official from a town or city within your Senate/LPC District; you do not have to nominate someone from your municipality.
- The names of all municipal officials properly nominated will appear on the LPC ballot, which will be distributed on June 4th.

Nominee Profile

Because the municipal officers may not be familiar with a nominee from another municipality, a brief description of each nominee who completes the enclosed **Nominee Profile Sheet** will be provided with the ballots that are distributed in early June. Please make sure that the person you nominate has a chance to complete the Nominee Profile Sheet and that it is returned to MMA with the Nomination Form.

Deadline for Submitting Nomination



The Chairman of your Board of Selectman, Council or Assessors (the "nominator") *and the nominee* must sign the nomination form for it to be valid.



The form must be returned to MMA by 5:00 p.m. on June 3, 2010, to be counted. Ballots will be mailed out immediately after the nomination process closes, so make sure you return the nomination form before the deadline. Please return the nomination form to **Laura Veilleux** at MMA either by mail (60 Community Drive, Augusta, Maine, 04330) or by FAX (624-0129).

If you have any questions, please call MMA's State and Federal Relations staff at 1-800-452-8786 or 623-8428.

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NOMINATION FORM

Maine Municipal Association's
Legislative Policy Committee
July 2010 to June 2012


Senate District 11

Chebeague Island
Cumberland
Falmouth


Gray
Long Island

North Yarmouth
Yarmouth

The municipal officers of _____ hereby nominate:
Print name of your municipality

Nominee: _____ 
Print name of Nominee


Nominee's municipality: _____ Position: _____

Date: _____ 
Signature of Nominator

Print name of Nominator

Consent

I agree to accept the nomination and to serve if elected to the MMA Legislative Policy Committee:

Date: _____ 
Signature of Nominee

Please return Nomination Form by 5:00 p.m. on June 3, 2010, to:

Laura Veilleux - Maine Municipal Association
60 Community Drive, Augusta, ME 04330
FAX: 624-0129

Nominations Received After 5:00 p.m. on June 3, 2010, Will Not Be Counted

LPC NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY

To: **Legislative Policy Committee Nominees**

From: **Maine Municipal Association**

Date: **April 22, 2010**

To help municipal officials make an informed choice when they vote for their LPC representatives, we ask nominees to provide some background information regarding their municipal service and why they want to be LPC members. A "nominee profile" is included on the ballot for each nominee who provides us with a profile.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Municipality: _____

Years in current position: _____

Mailing Address: _____ (include zip code, please)

Prior (recent) municipal experience: _____

Have you served on the LPC before? No Yes If yes, what years? _____

If you have served on any other MMA Committees, please note them: _____

Please indicate your primary issues of concern, and/or reasons for wanting to serve on the LPC:

Please give this completed form to your Board of Selectmen/Assessors or Council so that it can be returned with the Nomination Form, or send it directly to Laura Veilleux at MMA:

Maine Municipal Association
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330
FAX: 624-0129

Thank You!