

# **JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**Sen. James Hamper, Senate Chair   Rep. Margaret Rotundo, House Chair**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Monday May 11, 2015 10:00 a.m. Room 228 State House**

The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs will be holding public hearings in Room 228 of the State House on the Governor's **CHANGE PACKAGE** to LD 1019: "An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017".

The audio portions of public hearings and work sessions held in Room 228 of the State House may be heard over the internet by addressing: [http://www.maine.gov/legis/ofpr/appropriations\\_committee/audio/index.htm](http://www.maine.gov/legis/ofpr/appropriations_committee/audio/index.htm)

**Only Part A and B initiatives amended or deleted by the Change Package; the portions of the Language Part replacements that were altered by the Change Package; or Language Parts added by the Change Package are included in this public comment invitation.**

The CHANGE PACKAGE information has, or will, be posted to the Bureau of Budget website. The documents may also be accessed from the Legislative website <http://legislature.maine.gov/ofpr/committee-information/9192/> (look for the documents on the "Related Downloads" section to the right of the page).

When reviewing the Part A and Part B initiatives and planning your testimony, be aware of the information at the top of the page which states whether the change is a deletion, an addition or a change. When reviewing language parts also note Parts YYY through OOOO are new and the previous parts are replacements. The summaries of the replaced parts describe the effect of the whole language part, not just what was altered in the change package. The "Table of Contents" as drafted by the Bureau of the Budget indicates the effect of the change package on those parts. When reviewing language that moves portions of statute from one title, chapter or section to another (such as in Part MMMM) note that the portions being removed from their original location will be lined out or the entire chapter or section repealed and the portions moved to the "receiving" title, chapter or section will be underlined.

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**10:00 am**

**Change Package Items under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety**

**Sign-ups begin at 9:00 am**

**Sign up to testify on the PINK Sheets**

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**1:00 pm**

**Change Package Items under the Jurisdiction of the Joint Committee on Health and Human Services**

**Sign-ups begin at 12:00 noon**

**Sign up to testify on the BLUE Sheets**

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**2:00 pm (or upon completion of the 1:00 block)**

**All Change Package Items Not Previously Covered**

**Sign-ups begin at 12:00 noon**

**Sign up to testify on the YELLOW Sheets**

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## **Guidelines for those who wish to testify**

- Oral testimony is limited to 3 minutes
- Be as clear as possible on the initiative, topic or language part you are discussing. Reference page number or Language Part in the Change Package if possible.
- Bring at least 40 copies of testimony or other material you wish to share with the committee (the extra copies will be made available to the policy committee of jurisdiction)
- Sign-ups for testimony will begin at 9:00 am at a table set up near the AFA Committee Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Statehouse). You may sign up only yourself.
- Information on Overflow Rooms will be available at the kiosk or sign-up table.
- The time blocks are defined below. Make sure you sign up for the correct block.
- Check the correct box indicating whether you are in favor of or opposed to the proposed Change Package item to allow the Chairs to balance the testimony when calling names.
- Those who have signed up to testify on a given Block will be allowed in the committee room while that block is being heard if there is room.
- The committee room may be cleared after each block to make room for those who have signed up to testify on the next block.
- If there is not enough room for all those who have signed up to testify on a given block, then those without seats will be asked to wait in the Transportation Committee Room until their name is called – which will be in advance of their turn.
- If you have to leave before being called to testify or decide for any reason not to testify, you may give your written materials to Marianne MacMaster, the Committee Clerk for distribution.

Written testimony in lieu of oral testimony is welcome and will be considered.

### **If you do not want to give oral testimony but want to express your opinion:**

Come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the State House on May 11th, fill out a “Comment Sheet” and put it in the specially marked box. The box will be at the “sign-up table” outside of the committee room.

Or send an e-mail to [marianne.macmaster@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:marianne.macmaster@legislature.maine.gov) and she will forward your comments to the committee members.

Or mail your comments to: AFA Committee, 5 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

*Thank you for your interest and participation.*