



# Public Policy Update

**Presented by:**

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## Public Policy Committee

Chair - Mike Lane, Preti Flaherty

- ❖ Developers ❖ Engineers ❖ Architects ❖ Lawyers ❖ Bankers ❖
- ❖ Realtors ❖ Affordable Housing ❖ Historic Preservation ❖

## MEREDA's Mission Statement

Promote an environment for responsible development and ownership of real estate throughout the state.

## Public Policy Committee Guiding Principle

Pursue a more fair, predictable, and practical policy environment.

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## The 129<sup>th</sup> Maine State Legislature

### House of Representatives

❖ 88 Democrats, 56 Republicans,  
6 Independents, 1 vacancy

❖ **Majority Leadership**

- Speaker Sara Gideon
- Majority Leader Matt Moonen
- Assistant Majority Leader Ryan Fecteau

❖ **Minority Leadership**

- Minority Leader Kathleen Dillingham
- Assistant Minority Leader Trey Stewart

### Senate

❖ 21 Democrats, 14 Republicans

❖ **Majority Leadership**

- President Troy Jackson
- Majority Leader Nathan Libby
- Assistant Majority Leader Eloise Vitelli

❖ **Minority Leadership**

- Minority Leader Dana Dow
  - Assistant Minority Leader Jeff Timberlake
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## Constitutional Officers

**Attorney General**

**Aaron Frey**

**Secretary of State**

**Matthew Dunlap**

**State Treasurer**

**Henry Beck**

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## Governor Janet T. Mills Cabinet

Administration and Financial Services	Kirsten Figueroa
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry	TBA
Corrections	Randall Liberty
Defense, Veterans, Emergency Mgmt	Maj. Gen. Douglas Farnham
Economic and Community Dev't	Heather Johnson
Education	A. Pender Makin
Environmental Protection	Gerald Reid
Health and Human Services	Jeanne Lambrew
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Judith Camuso
Labor	Laura Fortman
Marine Resources	Patrick Keliher
Professional and Financial Regulation	Anne Head
Public Safety	Michael Sauschuck
Transportation	Bruce Van Note
Workers Comp Board, Exec Dir.	John Rohde

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## New Administration, New Legislature, New Opportunities!

### DEP

Gerry Reid, DEP

Chief of Natural Resources Division of Attorney General's Office since 2007

Dialogue:  
To seek opportunities for streamlining, process improvements

### Bonds

Governor Mills, Legislature likely to support **increased bonding**

Bond Proposals:  
geospatial data, affordable and senior housing, coastal erosion, workforce development, infrastructure

### Workforce

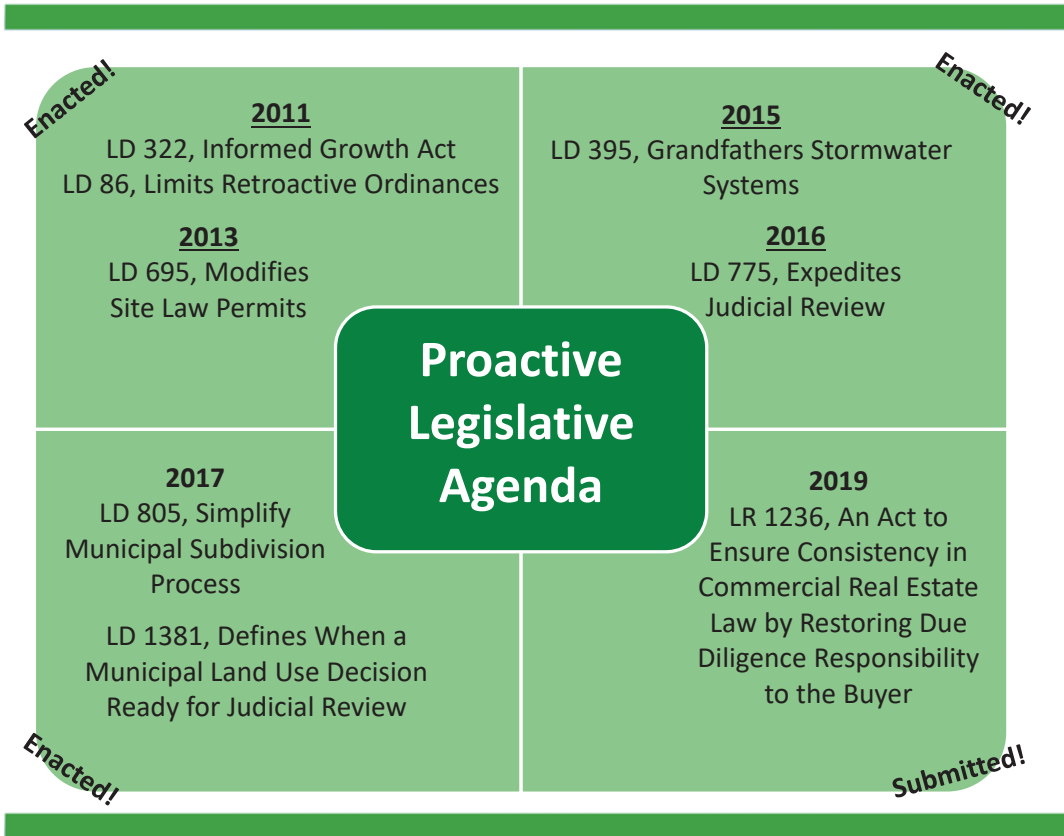
Heather Johnson, DECD  
Laura Fortman, DOL  
Pender Makin, DOE

Legislation:  
Apprenticeships, student debt reduction, trades education, and workforce development incentives

**Talent Growth, Attraction and Retention**

2,041 bills submitted so far

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## Other Advocacy and Education

### Referenda

- **2016** – Active in repeal of the 3% income tax surcharge for education.
- **2017**- Participated in campaign to help defeat troublesome zoning ordinance.
- **2018** – Joined coalition to defeat tax surcharge for home health services referendum.

### Fees

- **2017** – Negotiated a **lower VRAP fee increase** and cap on fees, and **lower fee increases for State Fire Plan review**.
- **2019** - Ready to defend development's interests in biennial budget!

### Regulations

- **2019** – Working group with DEP to streamline processes
- **2019** - Educational outreach to community and development leaders on challenges with MUBEC.

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## Join Us in Augusta

**MEREDA in the Hall of Flags**  
April 9, 2019

- ❖ Showcase Notable Projects ❖
- ❖ Meet Legislators ❖
- ❖ Watch the Process ❖



### Public Policy Committee

- ❖ Biweekly Meetings ❖
- ❖ Review New Legislation ❖
- ❖ Strategize Policy Approach ❖

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# THANK YOU!

Andrea Cianchette Maker, Pierce Atwood LLP



Maine Real Estate &  
Development Association

**Supporting Responsible Development**

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