

The presiding officers of the Maine Senate and House announced committee assignments for the recently sworn in 129th Legislature this afternoon. These appointments, to "Joint Standing Committees," will generally be locked-in for the next two years and will have immense policy implications. Senate President Troy Jackson (D-Allagash) and House Speaker Sara Gideon (D-Freeport) also took this opportunity to reconfigure a committee structure that had been in place since 2011.

Legislative Democrats scored major successes in November when they picked up four seats in the State Senate, winning control of it for the first time since 2014, and added to their plurality in the House of Representatives to emerge with an outright 88-57-5 majority. Four of five unenrolled House members now caucus with Democrats, and Rep. Aaron Frey (D-Bangor) chose not to be sworn-in to his seat, as he was elected Attorney General, creating a vacancy in House District #125. These large Democratic majorities mean they are firmly in control of selecting committee appointments and that Republican legislators will need to serve on multiple committees in most cases.

The 129th Legislature breaks the structure of committees that has been in place since 2011 when the Labor and Business, Research and Economic Development (BRED) Committees were merged into the Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development Committee (LCRED). As per newly adopted joint rules, LCRED has been separated into two new committees: the Labor and Housing Committee and the Innovation, Development, Economic Activity and Commerce Committee.

The Insurance and Financial Services (IFS) Committee has also been modified under the new scheme. It will now exist as the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee.

This afternoon's committee appointments are as follows:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Sen. James F. Dill, Chair (D-Penobscot)
Sen. G. William Diamond (D-Cumberland)
Sen. Russell Black (R-Franklin)
Rep. Craig V. Hickman, Chair (D-Winthrop)
Rep. David Harold McCrea (D-Fort Fairfield)
Rep. Margaret M. O'Neil (D-Saco)
Rep. Chloe S. Maxmin (D-Nobleboro)

Rep. Tiffany Roberts-Lovell (D-South Rep. Berwick)
Rep. MaryAnne Kinney (R-Knox)*
Rep. Thomas H. Skolfield (R-Weld)
Rep. Randall C. Hall (R-Wilton)
Rep. Theodore Joseph Kryzak, Jr. (R-Acton)
Rep. William D. Pluecker (I-Warren)

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Sen. Catherine E. Breen, Chair (D-Cumberland)
Sen. Linda F. Sanborn (D-Cumberland)
Sen. James M. Hamper (R-Oxford)
Rep. Drew Gattine, Chair (D-Westbrook)
Rep. John L. Martin (D-Eagle Lake)
Rep. Brian L. Hubbell (D-Bar Harbor)
Rep. Erik C. Jorgensen (D-Portland)
Rep. Michelle Dunphy (D-Old Town)
Rep. Teresa S. Pierce (D-Falmouth)
Rep. H. Sawin Millett, Jr. (R-Waterford)*
Rep. Dennis L. Keschl (R-Belgrade)
Rep. Nathan J. Wadsworth (R-Hiram)
Rep. Amy Bradstreet Arata (R-New Gloucester)

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Sen. Susan A. Deschambault, Chair (D-York)
Sen. Michael E. Carpenter (D-Aroostook)
Sen. Kimberley C. Rosen (R-Penobscot)
Rep. Charlotte Warren, Chair (D-Hallowell)
Rep. Janice E. Cooper (D-Yarmouth)
Rep. Pinny Beebe Center (D-Rockland)
Rep. Lois Galgay Reckitt (D-South Portland)
Rep. Victoria E. Morales (D-South Portland)
Rep. Braden Sharpe (D-Durham)
Rep. Richard A. Pickett (R-Dixfield)*
Rep. Patrick W. Corey (R-Windham)
Rep. Chris A. Johansen (R-Monticello)
Rep. Danny Edward Costain (R-Plymouth)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Sen. Rebecca J. Millett, Chair (D-Cumberland)
Sen. Everett Brownie Carson (D-Cumberland)
Sen. Matthew Pouliot (R-Kennebec)

Rep. Victoria P. Kornfield, Chair (D-Bangor)
Rep. Michael F. Brennan (D-Portland)
Rep. Richard R. Farnsworth (D-Portland)
Rep. David Harold McCrea (D-Fort Fairfield)
Rep. Janice S. Dodge (D-Belfast)
Rep. Henry L. Ingwersen (D-Arundel)
Rep. Heidi H. Sampson (R-Alfred)*
Rep. Gary A. Drinkwater (R-Milford)
Rep. Justin Fecteau (R-Augusta)
Rep. Shelley Rudnicki (R-Fairfield)

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Sen. Mark W. Lawrence, Chair (D-York)
Sen. David R. Miramant (D-Knox)
Sen. David Woodsome (R-York)
Rep. Seth A. Berry, Chair (D-Bowdoinham)
Rep. Deane Rykerson (D-Kittery)
Rep. Christina Riley (D-Jay)
Rep. Christopher James Caiazzo
(D-Scarborough)
Rep. Victoria W. Doudera (D-Camden)
Rep. Nicole Grohoski (D-Ellsworth)
Rep. Christopher J. Kessler (D-South Portland)
Rep. Jeffery P. Hanley (R-Pittston)*
Rep. Chad Wayne Grignon (R-Athens)
Rep. Steven D. Foster (R-Dexter)

Environment and Natural Resources

Sen. Everett Brownie Carson, Chair
(D-Cumberland)
Sen. Justin M. Chenette (D-York)
Sen. Robert A. Foley (R-York)
Rep. Ralph L. Tucker, Chair (D-Brunswick)
Rep. Michael G. Devin (D-Newcastle)
Rep. Jessica L. Fay (D-Raymond)

Rep. Stanley Paige Zeigler, Jr. (D-Montville)
Rep. Lori K. Gramlich (D-Old Orchard Beach)
Rep. Daniel J. Hobbs (D-Wells)
Rep. Richard H. Campbell (R-Orrington)*
Rep. Peter A. Lyford (R-Eddington)
Rep. Thomas H. Skolfield (R-Weld)
Rep. Chris A. Johansen (R-Monticello)

Health and Human Services

Sen. Geoffrey M. Gratwick, Chair
(D-Penobscot)
Sen. Ned Claxton (D-Androscoggin)
Sen. Marianne Moore (R-Washington)
Rep. Patricia Hymanson, Chair (D-York)
Rep. Margaret Craven (D-Lewiston)
Rep. Anne C. Perry (D-Calais)
Rep. Colleen M. Madigan (D-Waterville)
Rep. Rachel Talbot Ross (D-Portland)
Rep. Michele Meyer (D-Eliot)
Rep. Holly B. Stover (D-Boothbay)
Rep. Beth A. O'Connor (R-Berwick)*
Rep. Kathy Irene Javner (R-Chester)
Rep. Abigail W. Griffin (R-Levant)

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Sen. Heather B. Sanborn, Chair
(D-Cumberland)
Sen. Geoffrey M. Gratwick (D-Penobscot)
Sen. Robert A. Foley (R-York)
Rep. Denise A. Tepler, Chair (D-Topsham)
Rep. Michael F. Brennan (D-Portland)
Rep. Anne Marie Mastraccio (D-Sanford)
Rep. Heidi E. Brooks (D-Lewiston)

Rep. Gina M. Melaragno (D-Auburn)
Rep. Victoria Foley (D-Biddeford)
Rep. Dwayne W. Prescott (R-Waterboro)*
Rep. Mark John Blier (R-Buxton)
Rep. Joshua Morris (R-Turner)
Rep. Gregory Lewis Swallow (R-Houlton)

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Sen. James F. Dill, Chair (D-Penobscot)
Sen. Louis Joseph Luchini (D-Hancock)
Sen. Paul T. Davis (R-Piscataquis)
Rep. Catherine M. Nadeau, Chair (D-Winslow)
Rep. John L. Martin (D-Eagle Lake)
Rep. Roland Danny Martin (D-Sinclair)
Rep. Jessica L. Fay (D-Raymond)
Rep. Stanley Paige Zeigler, Jr. (D-Montville)
Rep. H. Scott Landry, Jr. (D-Farmington)
Rep. Paul A. Stearns (R-Guilford)*
Rep. Lester S. Ordway (R-Standish)
Rep. Timothy S. Theriault (R-China)
Rep. Richard G. Mason (R-Lisbon)

Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Commerce

Sen. Erin D. Herbig, Chair (D-Waldo)
Sen. Rebecca J. Millett (D-Cumberland)
Sen. Stacey K. Guerin (R-Penobscot)
Rep. Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, Chair
(D-Brunswick)
Rep. James R. Handy (D-Lewiston)
Rep. Jennifer L. DeChant (D-Bath)
Rep. Dale J. Denno (D-Cumberland)
Rep. Shawn A. Babine (D-Scarborough)
Rep. W. Edward Crockett (D-Portland)

Rep. Joel R. Stetkis (R-Canaan)*
Rep. Susan M. W. Austin (R-Gray)
Rep. Matthew A. Harrington (R-Sanford)
Rep. Norman E. Higgins (I-Dover Foxcroft)
Rep. Rena D. Newell (the Passamaquoddy Tribe)

Judiciary

Sen. Michael E. Carpenter (D-Aroostook)
Sen. Shenna Bellows (D-Kennebec)
Sen. Lisa M. Keim (R-Oxford)
Rep. Donna Bailey, Chair (D-Saco)
Rep. Christopher W. Babbidge (D-Kennebunk)
Rep. Barbara A. Cardone (D-Bangor)
Rep. Lois Galgay Reckitt (D-South Portland)
Rep. Rachel Talbot Ross (D-Portland)
Rep. Thom Harnett (D-Gardiner)
Rep. David G. Haggan (R-Hampden)*
Rep. Richard T. Bradstreet (R-Vassalboro)
Rep. John DeVeau (R-Caribou)
Rep. Jeffrey Evangelos (I-Friendship)

Labor and Housing

Sen. Shenna Bellows, Chair (D-Kennebec)
Sen. Mark W. Lawrence (D-York)
Sen. Stacey K. Guerin (R-Penobscot)
Rep. Michael A. Sylvester, Chair (D-Portland)
Rep. Ann E. Peoples (D-Westbrook)
Rep. Deane Rykerson (D-Kittery)
Rep. Donna R. Doore (D-Augusta)
Rep. Anne M. Carney (D-Cape Elizabeth)
Rep. Scott W. Cuddy (D-Winterport)
Rep. Richard T. Bradstreet (R-Vassalboro)*
Rep. Susan M. W. Austin (R-Gray)

Rep. Lawrence E. Lockman (R-Amherst)
Rep. Joshua Morris (R-Turner)

Marine Resources

Sen. David R. Miramant, Chair (D-Knox)
Sen. Eloise A. Vitelli (D-Sagadahoc)
Sen. Dana L. Dow (R-Lincoln)
Rep. Joyce "Jay" McCreight, Chair (D-Harpswell)
Rep. Michael G. Devin (D-Newcastle)
Rep. Robert W. Alley, Sr. (D-Beals)
Rep. Lydia C. Blume (D-York)
Rep. Allison Hepler (D-Woolwich)
Rep. Genevieve McDonald (D-Stonington)
Rep. Billy Bob Faulkingham (R-Winter Harbor)*
Rep. William R. Tuell (R-East Machias)
Rep. Sherman H. Hutchins (R-Penobscot)
Rep. Kathy Irene Javner (R-Chester)

State and Local Government

Sen. Ned Claxton, Chair (D-Androscoggin)
Sen. Susan A. Deschambault (D-York)
Sen. Paul T. Davis (R-Pisacataquis)
Rep. Roland Danny Martin, Chair (D-Sinclair)
Rep. Mark E. Bryant (D-Windham)
Rep. Arthur C. Verow (D-Brewer)
Rep. Sarah Pebworth (D-Blue Hill)
Rep. Roger E. Reed (R-Carmel)*
Rep. Frances M. Head (R-Bethel)
Rep. MaryAnne Kinney (R-Knox)
Rep. William R. Tuell (R-East Machias)
Rep. Jeffrey Evangelos (I-Friendship)
Rep. Walter N. Riseman (I-Harrison)

Taxation

Sen. Benjamin M. Chipman, Chair
(D-Cumberland)
Sen. Heather B. Sanborn (D-Cumberland)
Sen. Matthew Pouliot (R-Kennebec)
Rep. Ryan Tipping, Chair (D-Orono)
Rep. Stephen S. Stanley (D-Medway)
Rep. Maureen Fitzgerald Terry (D-Gorham)
Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier (D-Lewiston)
Rep. Diane M. Denk (D-Kennebunk)
Rep. Ann Higgins Matlack (D-St. George)
Rep. Donald G. Marean (R-Hollis)*
Rep. Bruce A. Bickford (R-Auburn)
Rep. Philip A. Curtis (R-Madison)
Rep. Theodore Joseph Kryzak, Jr. (R-Acton)

Transportation

Sen. G. William Diamond, Chair
(D-Cumberland)
Sen. Benjamin M. Chipman (D-Cumberland)
Sen. Bradlee Thomas Farrin (R-Somerset)
Rep. Andrew J. McLean, Chair (D-Gorham)
Rep. Mark E. Bryant (D-Windham)
Rep. Betty A. Austin (D-Skowhegan)
Rep. Benjamin T. Collings (D-Portland)
Rep. Bettyann W. Sheats (D-Auburn)
Rep. Bruce A. White (D-Waterville)
Rep. Michael D. Perkins (R-Oakland)*
Rep. Richard M. Cebra (R-Naples)
Rep. Dustin Michael White (R-Washburn)
Rep. Thomas H. Martin, Jr. (R-Greene)

Dan Walker

Chair, Government Affairs Group
dwalker@preti.com

Chace Jackson

Legislative Liaison
chacejackson@preti.com

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Sen. Louis Joseph Luchini, Chair (D-Hancock)
Sen. Erin D. Herbig (D-Waldo)
Sen. Scott W. Cyrway (R-Kennebec)
John C. Schneck, Chair (D-Bangor)
Janice E. Cooper (D-Yarmouth)
Craig V. Hickman (D-Winthrop)
Brian L. Hubbell (D-Bar Harbor)
Joyce "Jay" McCreight (D-Harpwell)
Scott Walter Strom (R-Pittsfield)*
Sheldon Mark Hanington (R-Lincoln)
John Andrews (R-Paris)
Josanne C. Dolloff (R-Rumford)
Kent Ackley (C-Monmouth)

Government Oversight Committee

Sen. Justin M. Chenette, Chair (D-York)
Sen. Linda F. Sanborn (D-Cumberland)
Sen. Nathan L. Libby (D-Androscoggin)
Sen. Paul T. Davis (R-Piscataquis)
Sen. Lisa M. Keim (R-Oxford)
Sen. Jeffrey L. Timberlake (R-Androscoggin)
Anne Marie Mastraccio, Chair (D-Sanford)
Jennifer L. DeChant (D-Bath)
Margaret M. O'Neil (D-Saco)
Kathleen R. J. Dillingham (R-Oxford)*
H. Sawin Millett, Jr. (R-Waterford)
Amy Bradstreet Arata (R-New Gloucester)

**Ranking Republican Member*