Pre-Meeting Preparation for Maine AI Task Force for June 25, 2025
Topic: Opportunities for Government Service Delivery

In this memo, you'll find a preview of the June 25 meeting agenda on opportunities for AI technologies to improve government service delivery; links to background readings on that topic; and highlights of recent AI news and research from around the country, as well as upcoming AI-related events in Maine.[1]

Meeting overview for June 25, 2025

At its last meeting on June 4, the Task Force discussed AI's implications for healthcare in Maine. Dr. Rebecca Hemphill of MaineHealth, Dr. Todd Kitchens of Sacopee Valley Health Center, and Dr. Mark Sendak of Duke Institute for Health Innovation discussed how emerging AI technologies were changing health delivery today in Maine and in other communities with significant rural populations. That discussion was followed by a presentation by Dr. Nick Jacobson of the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College about the development and evaluation of new AI tools for mental health. Slides and a recording of that meeting are available via the AI Task Force meeting calendar page on GOPIF's website.

The upcoming meeting on June 25 will focus on opportunities for AI to improve government service delivery in Maine, at both the state and municipal level. As a reminder, the Public Sector subgroup is considering answers to three questions:

1) *What are areas where Maine government could prioritize a first set of projects using AI technologies?*
2) *What preparations should the State consider to ensure successful implementation of new AI tools?*
3) *How should State agencies, municipalities, and other public entities collaborate on AI topics? What additional resources might be necessary?*

You can find the full Task Force Roadmap and the list of subgroup discussion questions at the end of this memo.

Agenda – June 25, 2025

1. Welcome (12:00p ET)

2. Live Demo (12:05p)
   - City of Corona, CA demonstrating AI tool to spur housing production through faster permitting

3. Panel on municipal topics (12:25p)
   - Brian McDonald, Director of IT and Administration, Maine Municipal Association
   - Jay Brenchick, Director of Economic Development, City of Auburn
   - Sandra Fournier, Town Manager, Towns of Mapleton, Castle Hill, and Chapman

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[1] Portions of this memo were drafted with assistance from GenAI technology.

- *Facilitated by Sarah Curran, Director, GOPIF*

4. Presentations on state topics (12:50p)
   - Nick Marquis, Acting CIO, State of Maine
   - [Rob Asaro-Angelo, Commissioner, NJ Department of Labor](#)

5. Break (1:15p)

6. Discussion (1:20p)

7. Wrap-up (2:00p)

Background for upcoming meeting

- **Case studies to be featured by speakers:**
  - City of Corona: [California city turns to AI to meet housing goals](#) (Route Fifty, 4/30/25)
  - New Jersey: [New Jersey is turning to AI to improve the job search process](#) (Fast Company, 4/11/24)

- **How state and local governments are using AI:** There has been extensive reporting and analysis on how state and local governments are using AI today and where there is the potential for future application. Here are two helpful places to start, with the first focused on state governments, the second on local governments, and the third on state legislatures:
  - [Artificial Intelligence in Government: The Federal and State Landscape](#) (National Conference of State Legislatures, 11/22/24): The second half of this policy brief discusses state inventories of AI applications, local state AI guidelines and governance approaches, and how state executive and legislative agencies are using AI:
  - [Practical AI Insights for Local Leaders](#) (Urban Institute, 1/8/25): This report surveys how local governments are adopting AI, identifying digital assistants, constituent communications, and complex problem solving as three common use cases:
  - [Legislative Use of Artificial Intelligence](#) (NSCL, 5/5/25): This brief examines how state legislatures are using new AI tools with legislative processes.

- **Building government capacity for AI:** Scaling AI in government is likely to require strengthening public sector IT capacity and data systems, updating contracting protocols, and upskilling the government workforce. These three resources address each respectively:
  - *IT and data systems:* [Generating Opportunity: The Risks and Rewards of Generative AI in State Government](#) (NASCIO, 11/12/24): This publication from the national association of CIOs identifies steps to strengthen IT systems and practices needed for states to effectively deploy AI tools.
  - *Procurement:* [Understanding How Public Procurement Shapes Cities' AI Use](#) (Statecraft, 5/7/25): Summarizes a Carnagie Mellon report on how outdated procurement rules often limit oversight and increase risks of AI-related contracts.
  - *Workforce*: [In New Jersey, using AI starts with empowering employees](#) (Statecraft, 12/4/24): Highlights NJ's first-in-nation survey of state workers on views of AI and subsequent efforts to roll-out training programs.

- **Additional examples from other states:**
  - Pennsylvania: [An evaluation of PA's yearlong GenAI pilot program found state workers saved 95 minutes a day by using AI tools in their daily work](#) (GovTech, 3/31/25)
  - Maryland: [In early 2025, Maryland's Governor released an AI strategic plan focused on five strategies for the year: maturing governance; strengthening underlying data systems; expanding experimentation; increasing AI literacy; and ongoing evaluation](#) (State of Maryland, Jan 2025)
  - Ohio: [Ohio uses AI to eliminate unnecessary words in state administrative code](#) (Axios, 4/29/24)
  - California: [Governor Newsom seeks to harness the power of GenAI to address homelessness, other challenges](#) (State of California, 9/5/24)

AI in the News

Upcoming events
- 7/16/25: [MIT AI & Education Summit 2025](#) (MIT)
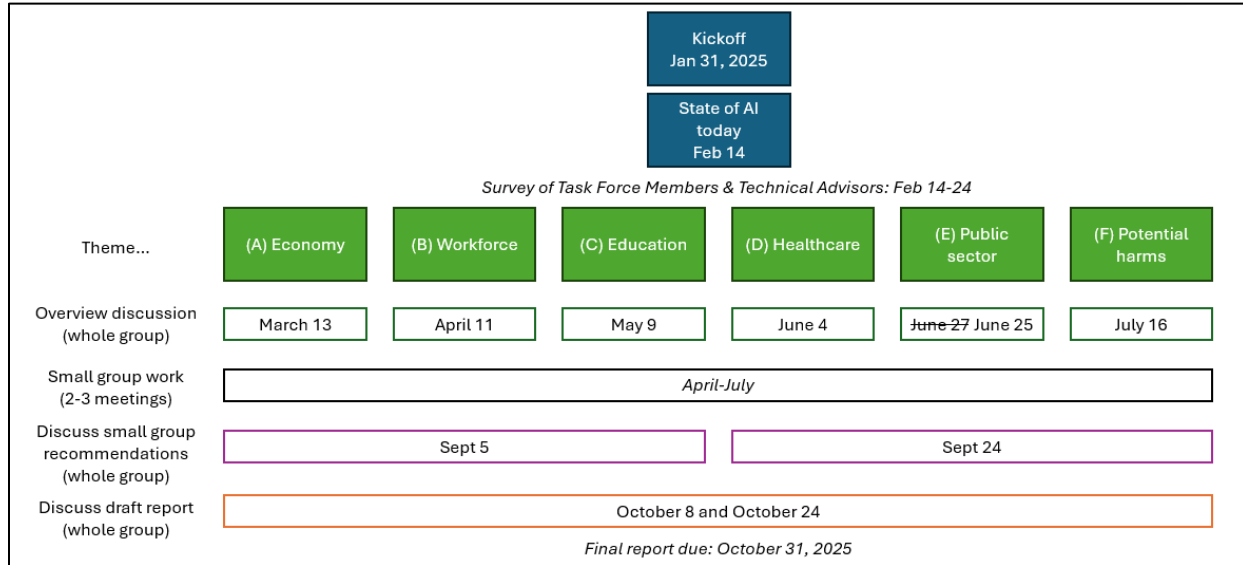- 8/13/25: [Summer Tech Institute](#) for educators (Mt. Blue High School, Farmington)

General interest
- [Mandatory AI Education For All U.S. Students? Top CEOs Say Yes](#) (Forbes, 5/6/25): 250+ CEOs have signed open letter urging all schools to make AI and computer science education required
- [Two Paths for A.I.: The technology is complicated, but our choices are simple: we can remain passive, or assert control](#) (New Yorker, 5/27/25): A look at the competing views on whether AI will evolve into uncontrollable "superintelligence" or evolve in more incremental ways like other recent technologies.
- [AI Chatbots Are Making LA Protest Disinformation Worse](#) (Wired, 6/10/25): AI chatbots confidently mislabeled recent photos of National Guard troops in LA, which the [Pentagon subsequently confirmed were authentic](#).
- [Video game performers on strike for almost a year over AI issues reach a tentative deal](#) (The Independent, 6/10/25): Hollywood video game performers reach tentative AI protection deals with major studios.

Research
- [AI Use at Work Has Nearly Doubled in Two Years](#) (Gallup, 6/16/25): Gallup researchers have found that the percentage of U.S. employees reporting ever using AI in their work has doubled since 2023. However, frequency of use remains relatively rare as only 8% of workers report using AI daily and less than 20% reporting using AI weekly.
- [Consult Evaluation: Scottish Government's Non-surgical cosmetic procedures consultation](#) (U.K. government AI Incubator, 3/25/25): This research evaluates the effectiveness of a new AI tool for analyzing public comments on policy proposals, finding that the tool significantly sped up analysis, produced similar rankings of themes to expert reviewers, and reduced perceived reviewer bias but also struggled to identify missing themes.

		Kickoff Jan 31, 2025			
		State of AI today Feb 14			

Survey of Task Force Members & Technical Advisors: Feb 14-24

Theme…	(A) Economy	(B) Workforce	(C) Education	(D) Healthcare	(E) Public sector	(F) Potential harms
Overview discussion (whole group)	March 13	April 11	May 9	June 4	~~June 27~~ June 25	July 16
Small group work (2-3 meetings)	*April-July*					
Discuss small group recommendations (whole group)	Sept 5			Sept 24		
Discuss draft report (whole group)	October 8 and October 24					

Final report due: October 31, 2025

Questions for all subgroups:
- *Innovation:* In this area, how can Maine mobilize AI innovation where its needed most?
- *Risks:* In this area, what are the most relevant potential harms from AI? How could Maine monitor impacts and risks in the future?

A: Economy
1. Where are there opportunities for Maine to become a global innovation center?
2. What steps could Maine take to facilitate AI-enabled innovation and business creation?
3. What supports might Maine's small businesses require to benefit from AI technologies?

B: Workforce
1. How can Maine's job training programs help Maine people be highly-qualified for roles created or changed by AI?
2. Are there areas where Maine's workforce systems or policy may need to evolve to respond to AI-driven job opportunities or disruptions?
3. How can workers be included in efforts to monitor and respond to AI's workforce impacts?

C: Education
1. How could schools and higher education institutions use AI to improve learning and learning outcomes?
2. How could we prepare Maine students for using AI in the workforce? What new skills should be taught?
3. What supports will educators, students, and institutions need to successfully navigate AI topics?

D: Healthcare
1. Where does AI offer promise for addressing Maine's health care challenges in Maine? Are there barriers to adoption that state policy could address?
2. Are there particular protections needed to ensure safe and appropriate usage of AI technologies in healthcare?
3. What might it take for Maine to emerge as a national innovation leader on how AI can improve rural health outcomes?

E: Public Sector
1. What are areas where Maine government could prioritize a first set of projects using AI technologies?
2. What preparations should the State consider to ensure successful implementation of new AI tools?
3. How should State agencies, municipalities, and other public entities collaborate on AI topics? What additional resources might be necessary?

F: Legal review on potential harms

Nine areas of risk emerged where TF members identified potential harmful uses of AI that may warrant exploration:

Deception & Exploitation, Political Manipulation, Copyright & Intellectual Property Violations, Lack of Accountability & Transparency, Financial Fraud & Scams, Consumer Data Misuse, Cybersecurity Threats, Algorithmic Bias & Discrimination, Exclusion from Opportunities

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