

LR 1046 (THE GOVERNOR'S BIENNIAL BUDGET)

Monday March 18th

For members of the public wishing to provide oral testimony:

- Be aware that MPBN will be filming proceedings for live or delayed viewing on their television station and internet site.
- Plan your testimony to be 3 minutes or less (this will be strictly enforced) – your *written* submittal can be as long as you want.
- If you want to give the committee any written materials, submit **40 copies** to the committee clerk for distribution. This will ensure that AFA and the Policy Committee of jurisdiction and their respective staffs receive copies.
- Written testimony or back-up materials should include your name and contact information.
- Fill in the sign-up sheet. The sheets will be located either in the hallway outside of the committee room or inside the committee room. Sign-ups will begin at 9:00 am for the morning hearings and 12 noon for the afternoon hearings. There will be no sign-ups after 5:00 pm though testimony will continue.
- If you are speaking on behalf of a group of people who wish to stand at the podium with you, please note the number after your name (e.g. Jane Doe (3))
- There will be a separate sign-up sheet for each policy committee of jurisdiction on each day.
- On Monday the 18th there will be TWO sign-ups for EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS: A pink one for the MORNING block (Higher Education, FAME, Cultural Agencies and MPBN,) and a blue one for the AFTERNOON Block (Charter School Commission, State Board of Education, Department of Education, Language Parts C, HH, II JJ and KK)
- Part C-1 which relates to the payment of employer charges for teachers will be covered in this hearing.
- Part H which relates to the health insurance benefit plan for retired teachers will be heard on Tuesday April 2nd. That hearing will be part of the schedule to be sent out later today.

- The Welcome Center and the Transportation Committee Room have been reserved for “overflow”. If the AFA committee room is full you will be asked to wait moves to one of those rooms. You will be able to watch the proceedings from the Welcome Center and listen to the proceedings in the Transportation Committee Room. *The Chairs may periodically ask those not waiting to speak to go to the Welcome Center to listen to the proceedings. This will allow other interested parties a chance to attend the proceedings in person. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding and cooperation.*
- When it’s approaching your time to speak, the Chairs will call your name. *Please note that the Chairs may call a name out of order to ensure that they have heard testimony all of the topics within a hearing block noted on the sign-up sheets or to accommodate special needs at their discretion. If your name was called out of order and you were not able to respond, it will be re-called in its normal sequence.*
- The Chairs will periodically announce the next few speakers to give those waiting in the Welcome Center or Transportation Room a chance to get to the committee room.
- When it’s your turn to speak give the committee clerk any written materials you want distributed. The clerk will be to your right as you face the committee.

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

Come to the 2nd floor of the State House on the day of the hearing, fill out a “Comment Sheet” and put it in the specially marked box. The box will be located at either the “sign-up table” at the edge of the hall of flags or at the Clerk’s desk in the committee room.

Or send an e-mail to holly.mullen@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