Real Estate Property Tax Relief Task Force

Resolve 2025, chapter 108 Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 10 a.m. Room 127 (TAX Committee Room) State House, Augusta, ME

Agenda: Meeting #2

10:00 a.m. Welcome

Chairs, Senator Nicole Grohoski & Representative Ann Matlack

Real Estate Property Tax Presentations

10:10 a.m. Amanda Campbell, Maine Municipal Association

11:20 a.m. Lewis Cousins, Maine Association of Assessing Officers & City Assessor - Presque Isle

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

Real Estate Property Tax Presentations - continued

1:15 p.m. Tim Curtis, County Administrator, Somerset County

1:55 p.m. Harold Chip Jones, Fiscal Administrator of the Unorganized Territory

2:20 p.m. Task Force member discussion & next steps

- Contract for research and analytical support
- Subcommittees
- Additional information that members would find helpful
- Future meeting dates

2:45 p.m. Adjourn

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Municipal and County Questions and Topics

The following list of questions and topics, including those in which the members expressed interest and contained in the resolve establishing the Task Force's duties, was provided to presenters in advance of the meeting.

- Property tax assessments
 - o What is the process?
 - O What are the reasons for the differences in mill rates across the state? Are mill rates going down in accordance with revaluations?
- What are the expenses associated with assessments?
- Property tax funds
 - O What are funds used for?
 - O Are fees for transactions conducted at the municipal level sufficient?
 - O What is driving costs in municipal budgets?
 - Of the services that municipalities or counties provide, which ones are mandated by the state (as opposed to local taxpayers)?
 - O What mechanisms are in place for transparency and accountability?
- Property Tax Relief efforts
 - O What property tax relief efforts are administered at the county and/or municipal level? Do you believe they are meeting the goals for which they were established? Do you have any recommendations?
 - O Are these relief efforts cost efficient? Are some more efficient than others?
- Valuation practices
 - o What is the current process?
 - O Is there an issue with disproportionate property assessments in certain areas (e.g., service centers) that negatively affect specific populations?
 - O What resource needs do municipalities have to conduct valuations?
 - Do you have any recommendations for improving fairness and accuracy and transparency?
- Federal funding changes what are the potential impacts?