



Maine Municipal Association

60 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330-9486
(207) 623-8428
www.memun.org

TO: Key Municipal Officials

FROM: Chris Lockwood, Executive Director

DATE: February 7, 2007

RE: Informational Flyer on the Maine Municipal Association

The Maine Municipal Association has developed the attached flyer that provides basic information on the Association for distribution at town meetings or council meetings.

Our goal is to provide municipal officials with a brief description of MMA – who we serve and what benefits we offer your municipality as a member, should citizens raise questions about the Association during town meeting or council meeting discussions.

We encourage you to make copies available for your citizens and/or board members as you determine would be helpful. We have also posted this information on the MMA website at www.memun.org for your reference and/or future access.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Theresa Chavarie or me at 1-800-452-8786 or by e-mail at tchavarie@memun.org. Thank you.

Enclosure

MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

What is the Maine Municipal Association? Who does it serve?

The Maine Municipal Association (MMA) is a voluntary membership organization of Maine's cities and towns whose mission is to provide services and programs to strengthen and promote local government. It is not a state agency. It is a non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1936. MMA helps elected and appointed officials from its 490 member communities perform their municipal duties. A twelve member Executive Committee comprised of municipal officials from throughout the state governs MMA.

What programs and services does MMA provide its members? Who benefits?

On a daily basis, municipal officials can receive crucial assistance in the performance of their many local duties from MMA, including core services such as:

- **Legal opinions and training** from one of MMA's six municipal attorneys;
- **Information and counsel** on a vast array of municipal and personnel laws and regulations;
- **Legal handbooks and manuals** explaining the responsibilities of elected and appointed municipal officials;
- **Seminars and training programs** on relevant local government topics;

How does MMA fund its array of services and programs for municipalities?

Municipal members pay annual dues, based upon population and valuation, to receive MMA's core services like legal advice and training programs. Members in the various MMA and Health Trust group insurance programs pay contributions for coverage and services.

How does MMA determine the positions it takes on legislation or citizen initiatives?

MMA's legislative platforms, policies, and positions are developed by a 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC), which is made up of two municipal officials from each of the state's 35 Senate Districts. The LPC representatives are elected to that position by the municipal officers within their Senate District.

How can I learn more about the Maine Municipal Association?

Visit the MMA website - www.memun.org for more information and to learn about the services and programs MMA offers Maine's cities and towns.

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Augusta, ME 04330
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MMA Website: www.memun.org

- **Workshops** on specific municipal duties and functions;
- **Access to information, reference materials and research on MMA's website;**
- **Publications** that deliver useful and timely information on topics of importance to cities and towns; and
- **Advocacy and representation** before legislative committees and state agencies on proposed laws and regulations that affect municipalities and their citizens.

MMA's members also take advantage of cost-effective, group insurance offered by the Association's Risk Management Services programs for property and casualty insurance, unemployment compensation and workers' compensation coverage as well as employee health and other benefits through the Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust. These programs enable municipalities to take advantage of group purchasing power and group self-insurance, with comprehensive insurance services and coverages tailored to meet the needs of local governments and their employees at competitive costs. Local officials govern these non-profit programs. Municipal members of the programs have a direct influence on their costs by being proactive in employee health, safety and loss control efforts with the help of the Association.

While MMA's services and programs are designed for municipalities and municipal officials, local citizens derive benefits from their town's membership – benefits that come from their town's access to legal and personnel advice, comprehensive training programs and cost-effective group insurance programs.