

## 2020 End of Session Report

CAI's Maine Legislative Action Committee (ME LAC) had a mild legislative session. The 9-member committee volunteered to review bills, draft testimony, meet with legislators and other decision-makers, and testify for or against bills. Despite the COVID-10 pandemic, Maine's General Assembly adjourned on time in April. There were more than 2,300 bills introduced, and the ME LAC closely monitored two bills that would have directly affected community associations. Below is a brief overview of the top priority bill.

LD 1598, An Act to Define the Responsibilities of Property Owners for Maintenance and Repair of Private Roads. ME LAC monitored this bill that established responsibility for the repair and maintenance of private roads and private ways that benefit residential properties. This bill provided that unless there is an agreement, restriction, covenant or road association that specifies the cost to be paid by each owner of a benefited property, the cost is shared in proportion to the benefit received by each owner of benefited property. An owner who damages a private road or private way that benefits other residential properties is solely responsible for the cost of repairs to fix the damage. An owner who fails to comply may be forced to comply through an action brought by other owners on the private road or private way.

Status: Approved for carryover to 2021 session

## **Maine Contact Information**

- Community Associations Institute Maine Legislative Action Committee: government@caionline.org
- Community Associations Institute New England State Chapter (781) 237-9020

## **Your Assistance is Needed**

Expenses incurred by the LAC are paid for with donations and Advocacy Fund fees. Corporate contributions are allowed and appreciated. Most community association boards can legally allocate money to support the ME LAC. Please visit <a href="https://www.caionline.org/lacdonate/">www.caionline.org/lacdonate/</a> and donate to "Maine" to support our continued efforts.

For more information visit www.caionline.org/MELAC.