GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS



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23RD ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE FORUM OCTOBER 4, 2018



LEGISLATIVE FORUM 2018

Maine could make national headlines this November because of the number of key races on the ballot this year. With important seats up for grabs and two political parties looking to score "big wins" in our state, the only thing we can predict about our political forecast is that it is unpredictable.

- Who will be Maine's next Governor?
- Which party will take control of the State Legislature?
- Will incumbents prevail in Maine's first and second Congressional districts?
- Who will win the race for U.S. Senate, and will the result impact the balance of power in Washington?

With so much up in the air here in Maine and a stagnant climate looming over Washington, our Legislative Forum's key note speaker, CNN commentator Paul Begala, will offer his unique perspective and insight on today's political landscape. He will discuss why Maine's races will be closely watched and talk about the impact the 2018 midterm elections will have on our country and state. Begala will also offer his thoughts on the biggest issues facing Congress and how the election will impact Washington's agenda.

We'll also bring to the stage radio power duo Ken and Matt from WGAN Newsradio's Ken & Matt Show to share their political humor and insights with our Forum guests. Through their comedic banter, they will give "their take" on today's top policy issues and the candidates running for office. And to close out the day, Maine Credit Union League President/CEO Todd Mason will interview a Special Guest to talk about why credit union advocacy and electing pro-credit union candidates matter.

The Maine Credit Union League's Legislative Forum is our signature political event of the year with iconic speakers, great discussion, and networking. Be part of this year's event by attending — register today!

OPENING SPEAKER: PAUL BEGALA

Paul Begala is a commentator for CNN, where he is part of the political team that has won both an Emmy Award and a Peabody Award. In the 2012 campaign, he was a senior adviser for a pro-Obama Super PAC, making Begala one of the few people to play a critical role in electing two different presidents.

After helping engineer Bill Clinton's presidential campaign with his business partner, James Carville, Begala served as counselor to the President, one of Clinton's closest aides. He has consulted for political campaigns across the country and around the world, including advising politicians in Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa.

Former President Bill Clinton described his longtime friend and former aide as "a witty dynamo from Sugar Land, Texas... who brought energy, focus and credibility to our efforts."



Paul Begala

He helped his friend John F. Kennedy, Jr. launch the political magazine *George* and wrote the *Capitol Hillbilly* column, and is the author of several *New York Times* best-selling political books.

Begala is an affiliated professor of Public Policy at Georgetown University. He has also taught at the University of Texas and the University of Georgia. Along with James Carville and GOP strategist Karl Rove, he was recently inducted into the American Association of Political Consultants Hall of Fame. Begala received his bachelor's degree in Government and his law degree from the University of Texas at Austin, where he was the student body president.

HUMOR AND POLITICS: WGAN'S MATT & KEN DELIVER "THEIR TAKE" OF THE DAY

Newsradio WGAN's popular morning program *The Ken & Matt Show* will come to life at the Forum. Ken and Matt will use their comedic humor to deliver "their take" on the hot news topics facing our nation and state. Their program airs on WGAN AM 560 and FM 105.5 Monday through Friday, from 5:00 – 9:00 A.M.



Matthew Gagnon and Ken Altshuler

Ken Altshuler has been practicing law in Portland, Maine, since 1985, with a sole focus on Family Law. In November of 2012, Ken was elected President of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, a national organization consisting of the top tier divorce lawyers in the United States. He has been included in the exclusive "Best Lawyers in America" list in the specialty of Family Law and has been awarded the Maine Family Lawyer of the year. He was also previously appointed by the Chief Justice of the State of Maine Supreme Judicial Court to the Committee to Study the Role of the Courts in Protecting Children.

Ken is the liberal co-host for *The WGAN Morning News*, and has appeared on national programs such as the *Glenn Beck Show*, CNN, Headline News, Nancy Grace, Jane Valez Mitchell, Dr. Drew, and HLN's *After Dark*. Ken is also the author of a book on golf entitled *Golf Foreplay*.

Matthew Gagnon is Chief Executive Officer of the Maine Heritage Policy Center (MHPC), Maine's premier free market policy think tank, a position he has held for more than four years.

Prior to his time at MHPC, Matt spent nearly ten years in Washington, DC, most recently as the Director of Digital Strategy for the Republican Governors Association, where he was recognized by *Campaigns & Elections Magazine* as one of the top campaign strategists in the country. He has also spent time on Capitol Hill as Director of New Media Communications for U.S. Senator Susan Collins. In 2010, he was Deputy Director of Digital Strategy at the National Republican Senatorial Committee, helping to coordinate online campaigns for 37 U.S. Senate races across the country.

For more than seven years, Matt has served as the primary conservative voice in the editorial pages of the *Bangor Daily* News, where he writes a column that is printed each Thursday. In addition to his work at MHPC and as a writer, Matt is the conservative co-host of the *WGAN Morning News*, the most popular news talk radio program in the greater Portland area.



Todd Mason

TODD MASON INTERVIEWS SPECIAL INVITED GUEST

Todd Mason, Maine Credit Union League President/CEO, will interview a **Special Guest** and discuss Maine politics and why it is important to elect pro-credit union candidates.



AGENDA

Thursday, October 4, 2018 · Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, Maine

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration**

Continental Breakfast Silent Auction Begins

9:00 Welcome and Introductions

Todd Mason, President Maine Credit Union League





9:10 - 10:20 Paul Begala

Today's Political Landscape and the Biggest Issues Facing Washington

10:40 - 11:10 Paul Begala

Overview of the 2018 Mid-Term Elections and Why Maine's Races Matter

11:15 - 12:00 Humor and Politics: WGAN's Matt & Ken Deliver Their Take of the Day

Ken Altshuler and Matthew Gagnon

12:10 - 1:10 Lunch

Silent Auction closes at 1:15

1:15 - 2:15 Interview with Special Guest

Hosted by Maine Credit Union League President/CEO Todd Mason

2:15 – 2:30 Awards, CULAC Raffle Drawing



Legislative Forum 2018 · Register Today!

Credit Union:	
Thursday, October 4, 2018 · Harraseeket Inn, Freeport	
Name(s):	
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Conference Registration Fee: \$225 per person

Registration deadline October 1, 2018 · No refunds will be allowed after deadline

Five ways to register

- 1 Register online at: www.mainecul.org
- **3** Call 1-800-442-6715: Ask for Member Services
- 2 Email registration to: serlandson@mainecul.org
- 4 Fax registration form to: 207-773-0957 Attn: Member Services
- 5 Mail Registration form with check to: Maine Credit Union League, Member Services, P.O. Box 1236, Portland, ME 04104