

# 24<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE FORUM November 13, 2019



Believe it or not, 2019 marks the calm before the next political storm as the 2020 election is shaping up to be historic. The only thing that remains predictable about our current political environment is that everything is unpredictable.

- What impact will the impeachment proceedings have on the Presidential race?
- Who will ultimately win the Democratic nomination?
- Will Republicans make a strong play for the second congressional district?
- Will the balance of power in Congress change and will Maine play a critical role in any potential change?

We will explore these topics and the current state of the U.S. economy with our Legislative Forum's keynote speaker, Steve Forbes. What is Mr. Forbes outlook on the economy? Are the signs of an impending recession well founded or a false alarm? If and when the next recession hits, what impact will it have? How has President Trump handled the economy and has he missed any opportunities? Mr. Forbes will share his experience and insights.

We also will be joined by Ryan Donovan, CUNA's Chief Advocacy Officer. Donovan will discuss the importance of credit union advocacy efforts and provide updates on pressing policy issues like cannabis banking and bank attacks. Part of Donovan's presentation will be interactive and offer an opportunity for input and feedback on the 2020 CUNA-League advocacy agenda.

After lunch, we will host a legislative expert panel featuring former Senate President Michael Thibodeau and former Speaker of the House Mark Eves. Thibodeau and Eves will explore how individuals can conquer their differences and still make an impact. They will share how credit unions can be most effective in the halls of the State House.

The Legislative Forum has been the Maine Credit Union League's signature political event for many years, featuring worldclass speakers, robust discussions, and networking. Don't miss this year's event – register today!

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER: STEVE FORBES**

Steve Forbes is Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of Forbes Media.



In both 1996 and 2000, Steve campaigned vigorously for the Republican nomination for the Presidency. Key to his platform were a flat tax, medical savings accounts, a new Social Security system for working Americans, parental choice of schools for their children, term limits and a strong national defense. Steve continues to energetically promote this agenda. Steve writes editorials for each issue of Forbes under the heading of "Fact and Comment."

A widely respected economic prognosticator, he is the only writer to have won the highly prestigious Crystal Owl Award four times. The prize was formerly given by U.S. Steel Corporation to the financial journalist whose economic forecasts for the coming year proved most accurate.

Steve's newest project is the podcast "What's Ahead," where he engages the world's top newsmakers, politicians and pioneers in business and economics in honest conversations meant to challenge traditional conventions as well as featuring Steve's signature views on the intersection of society, economics, and policy.

## AGREE TO DISAGREE: HOW TO LEAD IN THE AGE OF POLITICAL GRIDLOCK

In 2016, the Maine Legislature was named the state legislature most committed to civil political discourse. The presiding officers at the time were Republican Senate President Michael Thibodeau and Democratic Speaker of the House Mark Eves. While Thibodeau and Eves find very few issues they agree on, they developed a working relationship that became a genuine friendship. What can we learn from their experiences? What are some of the best tips they can offer credit unions during these interesting political times?



**Michael Thibodeau** 

**Michael Thibodeau** recently completed twelve years of service in the Maine Legislature. Following two terms in the Maine House of Representatives, Thibodeau served four terms in the Maine Senate, the final two terms as Senate President. Thibodeau is the first Republican to serve consecutive terms as Senate President in 36 years.

Before joining the legislature, Thibodeau and his family ran a successful construction company in the Bangor area. The family sold the business in 2007. In 2013, Thibodeau and his wife Stacy founded Mt. Waldo Plastics, Maine's only Maine made snow shovel manufacturer. Mike and Stacy live in Winterport and are proud grandparents to their daughters' children.

**Mark Eves** was first elected in 2008 and served four terms in the Maine House of Representatives, the final two terms as Speaker of the House. He is the first person to serve consecutive terms as Speaker since former Speaker John Martin served from 1975 to 1994.

Prior to serving in public office, Eves worked as a marriage and family therapist. He attended the University of Louisville and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, where he met his wife Laura. In 2016, Eves was hired as the Executive Director of Woodford's Family Services in Westbrook. Mark and Laura live in North Berwick with their three children and some amazing 4-H animals.



Mark Eves



Ryan Donovan

## RYAN DONOVAN: WHY ADVOCACY MATTERS

**Ryan Donovan**, CUNA Chief Advocacy Officer, will discuss why advocacy is important for credit unions and garner feedback on the 2020 advocacy agenda. Donovan has served as the Chief Advocacy Officer since 2015 and joined CUNA's staff in 2007.



## **REGISTRATION DEADLINE November 8, 2019 · \$225**

## AGENDA

### Wednesday November 13, 2019 · Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, Maine

8:30-9:00	Registration
	Continental Breakfast
	Silent Auction Begins
9:00-9:10	Welcome and Introduction
	Todd Mason, President/CEO
	Maine Credit Union League
9:10-9:55	Today's Political Landscape and Outlook on Our Nation's Economy
	Steve Forbes, Forbes Media
9:55-10:35	Question and Answer Session
	Steve Forbes, Forbes Media
10:45-12:00	Why Advocacy Matters
	Ryan Donovan, CUNA
12:00-1:00	Lunch
	Silent Auction Closes at 1:05
1:05-1:50	Agree to Disagree: How to Lead in the Age of Political Gridlock
	Michael Thibodeau and Mark Eves
1:50-2:30	Moving Maine Forward to Improve the Financial Lives of Mainers
	Todd Mason, Maine Credit Union League
2:30-3:00	Awards, CULAC Raffle Drawing

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## Legislative Forum 2019 · Register Today!

Credit Union:

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 · Harraseeket Inn, Freeport

Name(s):

#### Conference Registration Fee: \$225 per person

Registration deadline November 8, 2019 · No refunds will be allowed after November 6

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