



RIGHT TIME. RIGHT PLACE. **RIGHT SOLUTION.**

25TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE FORUM
VIRTUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2020



Maine Credit Union League

The political storm of 2020 is upon us. Every four years Americans are told that this is the most significant election of their lifetime. For many, regardless of party, that statement is true this year.

Maine will once again play a prominent role in shaping our nation's future. Will Maine repeat 2016 and split its electoral college votes for president? Will the winner of Maine's US Senate seat determine which party will hold the majority? 2016 saw the first incumbent to lose in their bid for re-election for the Second Congressional District in nearly 100 years, what will happen this cycle? Our virtual Legislative Forum program will explore the state of our nation and our state.

This year's program is headlined by our keynote speaker, former US Senator Joe Lieberman. Senator Lieberman's experiences serving our country will provide our attendees a unique perspective on the 2020 Election and the current state of political affairs in our country.

Following that we will have a legislative expert panel featuring two chairs of the Legislature's Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee (AFA). As the state's budget writing committee, the AFA committee is undeniably the most powerful committee in the Maine Legislature. Senator Jim Hamper and Representative Drew Gattine will give us an inside look to the budgeting process, the challenging budget cycle ahead for 2021, and other perspectives around Maine politics.

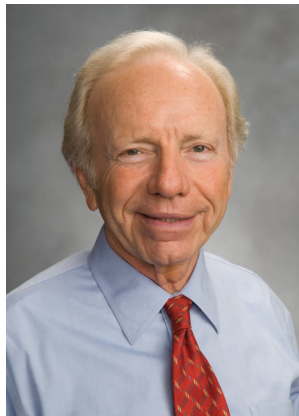
While we are disappointed that we can't have the regular in-person experience, this year's Legislative Forum promises to continue to be the League's signature political event of the year. Legislative Forum always features world-class speakers, robust discussions, unique perspectives, and excellent gift shopping opportunities with our CULAC Auction. You won't want to miss this year's event – register today!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: SENATOR JOE LIEBERMAN

A thoughtful legislator. A principled man. An effective leader. This is the reputation that Joe Lieberman earned himself after four terms as the representative of Connecticut in the United States Senate.

Perhaps best known as the Democratic candidate for Vice President in 2000, Senator Lieberman established himself as a national leader — one who worked across party lines to find common ground, a person who spoke his conscience and who got things done for the good of all people in America.

Senator Lieberman was one of Congress's most influential voices on security issues. He was the Senate's leading champion of legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security to better protect the nation from terrorist attacks. He was at the forefront of efforts not only to increase our investment in defense, but to transform our armed forces to better meet the threats of the 21st Century.



Senator Joe Lieberman

Senator Lieberman believes in equal opportunity for all Americans. He supported economic policies that spark business growth, encourage innovation, open the doors of opportunity for all, expand markets for American products, and keep the government's budget books in balance. He has also been a champion for the ordinary investor and consumer, fighting to ensure that public and private watchdogs meet the highest standards of independence and integrity.

Born in Stamford, Connecticut, Lieberman attended public schools. He received his bachelor's degree from Yale College in 1964 and his law degree from Yale Law School in 1967. Senator Lieberman was elected to the Connecticut State Senate in 1970 and served there for ten years, including the last six as Majority Leader. From 1983 through 1988, he served as Connecticut's 21st Attorney General. As Attorney General he took on polluters of Connecticut's environment, strengthened child support enforcement, and earned a strong reputation as a defender of consumers' rights.

Senator Lieberman was first elected to the United States Senate in 1988, scoring the nation's biggest political upset that year by a margin of just 10,000 votes. In 2006, Senator Lieberman was elected to a fourth term as an Independent, because of the strength of his record and his accomplishments for the state.

AGREE TO DISAGREE: HOW DO STATE BUDGETS COME TOGETHER AND WHAT DOES THE BUDGET LOOK LIKE FOR 2021?

In June 2019, the Maine Legislature enacted the current biennial budget. The budget garnered the required two-thirds support in both the House and the Senate and was immediately signed into law by Governor Janet Mills. The state budget is a complex document that takes months of preparation, consideration, and negotiations. The Appropriations and Financial Affairs (AFA) Committee is charged with crafting and monitoring the state's budget. Serving on the AFA Committee is considered by many as either a coveted committee assignment or a punishment. Republican Senator Jim Hamper and Democratic Representative Drew Gattine have both served two terms as chair of the AFA Committee, both guiding the Legislature through multiple budget agreements. We will explore with them what it is like to negotiate a document worth over \$8 billion dollars. We will discuss their perspectives as Governor Mills and the next Legislature approach the next two-year budget, including the impacts created by the COVID-19 pandemic.



James Hamper

Jim Hamper is completing sixteen consecutive years serving the Oxford Hills region in the Maine Legislature. Hamper served four terms in the Maine House of Representatives before being elected to four terms in the Maine Senate. While serving in the Maine Senate Hamper has served six years on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, four of those years as Senate Chair of the committee. He has also served on the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, Health and Human Services, and the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee, during his legislative service.

A graduate of the University of Maine at Augusta, Senator Hamper is a carpenter with Bartow Construction. Senator Hamper lives in Oxford with his wife Lynn. They have two children and two grandchildren.



Drew Gattine

Drew Gattine is serving his fourth term in the Maine House of Representatives representing a part of the City of Westbrook. Gattine has served two terms as House Chair of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, before he served two terms on the Health and Human Services committee, one term as House Chair.

Representative Gattine is a health care executive with extensive experience in implementing and operating projects designed to deliver more effective and efficient services in publicly funded programs. He is a nationally known expert on the topic of health care fraud, waste and abuse and has presented at numerous national conventions and meetings on this topic. He is also a former state assistant attorney general.

Gattine lives on a small family farm in Westbrook with his wife, Elizabeth. They have two children in college.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE OCTOBER 9, 2020

AGENDA

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 · Virtual Meeting

9:30 – 9:45 **Welcome and Introductions**

Todd Mason, President
Maine Credit Union League

9:45 - 10:15 **Senator Joe Lieberman**

Today's Political Landscape and the outlook
for our nation beyond 2020

10:15 - 10:45 **Senator Lieberman Q&A**

10:45 – 11:00 **Break**

11:00 - 11:45 **Legislative Panel: The Appropriations Chairs**

The state budget, how does it come together
and what does the 2021 budget look like?

11:45 – 12:15 **Awards, CULAC Raffle Drawing**



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Legislative Forum 2020 · Register Today!

Credit Union: _____

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 · Virtual Meeting

Name(s): _____

Conference Registration Fee: \$149 for the first credit union registrant, \$99 for each subsequent attendee
Registration deadline October 9, 2020 · No refunds will be allowed after deadline

**Four ways
to register**

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