Maine Center for | 2023 Legislative Priorities

Funding Maine's future with the state budget

We are living through the recovery of an economy built on a foundation of inequality. We now have a choice to make better policy decisions that intentionally fund the brightest future for the Mainers who face significant hardships and barriers.

Supporting Maine families with kids

Expanding our Child Tax Credit gives us the chance to mirror the federal experiment of monthly, direct aid to families that led to a massive reduction in child poverty. We can do this by increasing our existing Child Tax Credit and making it accessible to those who need it most by making it fully refundable.

Ensuring corporations pay their fair share of taxes

Real Profits Tax (Conformity): Uses the momentum created by the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act to create a new minimum tax for large, profitable corporations who currently pay little to no taxes.

Tax Havens: In the face of no federal action to reign in the use of tax havens, Maine should implement Worldwide Combined Reporting to ensure that multinational corporations are not using loopholes to avoid paying what they owe.

Corporate Income Tax Transparency: Taxpayers and legislators should know whether the millions of dollars spent on tax breaks for corporations are effective and which companies are paying what they owe.

Increasing worker power

Paid Family Leave: Mainers shouldn't have to choose between spending time with their newborn and paying their rent, or between putting food on the table and caring for their aging parents. A statewide paid family and medical leave policy would solve this problem.

Farm Worker Collective Bargaining and Wage and Hour Rights: The status quo is both harmful and rooted in racism. People who grow our food and power our agricultural economy deserve the same rights as everybody else.

Overtime: People should be paid fairly for time worked.

Scheduling Reform: Mainers have a right to safe work schedules that honor their humanity.

Wage Transparency: Greater transparency in wages during the hiring process gives more power to workers and helps address racial and gender inequality.

Strengthening Maine's child care system

Maine needs more child care opportunities in more places that is more affordable. This package that we are supporting with partners in the Right from the Start coalition will immediately seek to increase subsidies for the current providers while seeking better, actionable information about how to strengthen the child care system as a whole.

Fighting for tribal sovereignty

The Wabanaki Tribes in Maine are the only federally-recognized tribes in the United States that are denied the rights and protections guaranteed under Federal Indian Law. We stand with the Tribes' call to reform the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act and the Maine Implementing Act which limit the Tribes' inherent rights to self-govern. When the Wabanaki have the tools they need to thrive, all who live within Maine borders benefit.