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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

June 30, 2010

On June 8th, Maine had a primary election vote to allow registered voters to select their party candidates for Governor and the Legislature. The outcomes were both surprising and predictable.

For the Democrats, Libby Mitchell captured the nomination with 35% of the vote. Mitchell is the most experienced politician in the four-way primary and would be the first women governor if elected in November.

On the Republican side, Paul LePage, the Waterville Mayor, surprised all the conventional wisdom and won with 37% of the vote in a seven-way race, against some highly funded candidates. LePage has a compelling life story and solid business and political experience. He also has strong appeal for the Franco-American voters.

In addition to the party nominees, there is the likelihood that the ballot will include three Independent candidates; Eliot Cutler, Shawn Moody and Kevin Scott who have qualified for the ballot. Outside of the candidates, the primary vote also saw several bond issues; all of which passed to provide funding for various projects. The voters rejected the tax reform question and surely this issue will be back before legislators sometime in the future.

There will be more to say about the November 2nd election in the months ahead. For now, enjoy what Maine has to offer – great weather and outdoor recreation; **SUMMER IS OFFICIALLY HERE!** Be safe and enjoy.

— Cheryl Timberlake
Executive Vice President