The following report is from RLDAM Lobbyist, Dan Riley of Norman, Hanson, & DeTroy LLC.

**Issues Update:**

Senator Rebecca Millett introduced a bill this session, LD 369, An Act To Support Healthy Workplaces and Healthy Families by Providing Earned Paid Sick Leave to Certain Employees. The public hearing for the bill was held on February 25th before the new Labor and Housing Committee. The Retail Lumber Dealers Association of Maine testified in opposition.

LD 369 would require all employers who employ five or more employees to provide paid sick leave to their employees. Paid sick leave would be earned at a rate of one hour paid sick leave for every thirty hours worked by both full-time and part-time workers. Those who employ fewer than five employees would be required to provide unpaid sick leave.

The bill resembles the citizen initiated referendum proposal which the Maine People’s Alliance has collected enough signatures to get on the ballot in 2020. In addition, the City of Portland is considering a similar ordinance proposal.

The RLDAM will follow up with committee members and participate in the bill’s work session to make sure any necessary changes to the legislation are made.

**Events:**

RLDAM will hold its annual legislative breakfast on May 21st, where members were able to discuss their businesses and priority issues with 24 legislators. RLDAM members will have the opportunity to speak with their legislators about retainage, the impending carbon tax, referendum reform, paid sick leave, and workers compensation bills. For more information please contact Jamie McCormick at jmccormick@nrla.org.

**Did You Know?**

The lumber and building materials industry has an annual taxable payroll of $319,307,796 in Maine.

**Questions?**

Please contact Kirk Ives, Director of Government Affairs at 518-880-6376 or kives@nrla.org.