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MAINE STATE CHAMBER KICKS-OFF REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETINGS THIS WEEK

A total of eight regional business breakfasts to take place through June

AUGUSTA, MAINE – The Maine State Chamber of Commerce kicked-off its annual series of regional business breakfasts in Bar Harbor Wednesday morning with a well-attended, informative event for Bar Harbor and Ellsworth area business leaders and local chambers of commerce. Each year, the Maine State Chamber hosts the events to brief attendees on the Maine State Chamber’s activities over the past year and through the upcoming year, and hear from area businesses what they have on their priority lists. More than 30 local business leaders attended Wednesday morning's breakfast event.

“These regional business breakfasts we host every year not only serve to inform area business leaders about the Maine State Chamber’s efforts during last legislative session and the dozens of other Maine State Chamber activities, but they give the Maine State Chamber’s leadership the opportunity to hear from business leaders across the state about their top priorities and challenges,” said Maine State Chamber of Commerce President Dana Connors. “We had a lively and engaging discussion in Bar Harbor, and I expect our upcoming breakfasts will be similar. We always encourage business leaders to share their priorities and challenges with us so that we may better focus on their needs. They are on the front lines every day battling a tough, yet hopeful, economic climate. We welcome their thoughts and ideas, all of which serve to grow Maine’s economy and create jobs.”

Top topics of discussion at the Bar Harbor/Ellsworth breakfast event Wednesday focused on issues dealt with during the recently adjourned legislative session – ranging from the supplemental budget and bond package to taxation and workforce development, just to name a few.

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce will host its Lewiston/Auburn area regional business breakfast on June 5 in Lewiston, its Midcoast regional meeting on June 10 in Freeport, its Bangor regional meeting on June 17 in Bangor, its Aroostook County meeting on June 18 in Presque Isle, its Portland area meeting on June 24 in South Portland, its Oxford Hills regional meeting on June 25 in South Paris, and its Southern Maine regional meeting on June 26 in Saco. Any business leaders in these regions interested in attending can find more information on upcoming events on the Chamber's website: www.mainechamber.org.

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About the Maine State Chamber of Commerce...

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce represents a diverse network of 5,000 businesses statewide and advocates on behalf of their interests before the Legislature and regulatory agencies and through conferences, seminars, and affiliated programs. Through its OneVoice program and collaboration with local and regional chambers throughout the state, the Maine State Chamber represents thousands of businesses with fewer than 10 employees. Its Grassroots Action Network works to involve members and their employees in the legislative process through outreach campaigns.