

action

impact

RESULTS

SECOND QUARTER 2010



Communications Director Chris Cinquemani offers tips on executing a successful, high-impact rally to activists at MHPC's Building Your Activist Tool Kit workshop in Union.

BUILDING YOUR ACTIVIST TOOL KIT

MHPC has partnered with Americans for Prosperity-Maine to hold activist workshops. The "Building Your Activist Tool Kit" workshop was first held in June in Belfast, where 75 activists received training from communications director Chris Cinquemani and Center for Open Government director Sam Adolphsen. A second workshop, in Union, drew 72 more budding activists. MHPC will hold workshops in every Maine county, offering tips and skills to advance free market principles across the state.

There is a growing movement to expand freedom and promote responsible, free market reforms to conquer Maine's challenges. MHPC is leading the charge.

MHPC FIGHTS GOVERNMENT ABUSE

MHPC's Center for Constitutional Government director David Crocker filed suit against the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) because of improper campaign contributions to influence five citizens' initiatives. The Legislature recognizes the property tax funded MMA as an instrumentality of government, making its nearly \$2 million in political activities and contributions illegal. MHPC seeks a court order to end this illegal use of public funds for electioneering. With a similar municipal association in every state, MHPC's suit may have national implications.



YES ON 1 PREVAILS

By a 60-40 margin, Mainers rejected the Legislature's so-called tax reform plan. The plan would have reduced income taxes for some wage earners while dramatically expanding the sales, and meals and lodging taxes for all Maine taxpayers. MHPC endorsed the repeal of this tax-shift after chief economist Scott Moody and David Crocker, director of the Center for Constitutional Government, revealed that the legislation would destroy jobs, and also included unconstitutional provisions that would likely have caused the legislation to be struck down in court.

By The
NUMBERS

January through June 2010

Educating the Public and Building Maine's Freedom Movement

- **34,786** unique visitors to our Web sites
- **2,858** more people joined our e-mail list
- **34** presentations to various civic and community organizations to a combined **3,260** attendees
- **19** policy events hosted with **790** attendees, including **81** first-time attendees
- **567** media mentions or citations
- **545** donations, including **218** new donors



WHAT CAUSES JOB GROWTH IN MAINE?

The *Maine Business InsideOut* series, headed by chief economist Scott Moody, is a year-long, multi-study analysis of business demographics in Maine. Its purpose is to provide real-world facts concerning job growth and job loss in Maine. Scott's initial reports found that, overall Maine has created just over 40,000 jobs between 1993 and 2007. While the good news is job growth has been positive, the bad news is this is the 10th worst level of job creation in the country. Rather than policy based on gut reactions and anecdotes, lawmakers can use information from the *Maine Business InsideOut* series to develop responsible economic policies to achieve real job growth and prosperity in Maine.

TURNPIKE SALARIES ON MAINEOPENGOV.ORG

Sam Adolphsen, Center for Open Government director, updated MHPC's transparency Web site MaineOpenGov.org with payroll and spending data for the Maine Turnpike Authority, and 2009 vendor payments made by the state. In 2009 alone, Maine paid \$289 million to out-of-state vendors. Pike Industries, the New Hampshire-based construction company that led the charge against the 2009 Maine Taxpayer Bill of Rights, received a combined \$52 million from the state and the Maine Turnpike Authority.

