

The 2018 Mid-Term Election Cycle

In just a few days you will decide who to vote for at the local, state and national levels for at least the next two years. Those who you elect will have control over your wages, pensions, health care and even your basic right to collective bargaining.



The IAFF and PFFM will never tell you how to vote, but it is our job to assess the candidates' positions on issues that affect your lives and livelihoods as fire fighters. Based on these records of support for our issues, we determine who to endorse. We do not take this task lightly; we support those who support us, regardless of party affiliation.

The PFFM continues to support and endorse Senator Angus King and Representative Chellie Pingree, both of whom are supportive of the issues important to the IAFF, the PFFM and our members. They oppose right-to-work legislation and support collective bargaining. They will protect funding for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) and Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE Act) grants. They also understand the importance of our pension and the right of federal fire fighters to have the same presumptive protections for cancer, infectious and cardiac disease that we have in Maine.

We also endorse Jared Golden for the 2nd Congressional District. While in Augusta he was always on the frontlines fighting for the PFFM and our members, and he has pledged to do so if he is elected as our representative. Jared was the key sponsor of LD 848, which recognizes PTSI and provides a rebuttable presumption in the workers' compensation system.

In the Maine's governor's race, the PFFM Executive Board has voted to endorse Maine Attorney General Janet Mills. Janet has been a good friend of the PFFM and labor during her years as a legislator and in her role as Attorney General. She has been a true supporter of fire fighters and understands the job we perform and the dangers we face. Janet supports the rights of union workers and the importance of protecting our retirement and others benefits that we have earned. After almost eight years of nonstop attacks on union workers and benefits, we need someone in the Blaine House who will work with us, not diminish our rights and the ability to provide for our families. Janet Mills is that person.

In the Maine legislative races, the PFFM partnered with Maine AFL-CIO to send a candidate questionnaire to every person running for the House and Senate. To be considered for an endorsement, candidates needed to complete the questionnaire. Incumbents who were previously endorsed by the PFFM needed to let us know they wanted our continued support.

I know for many of you these will be difficult decisions because of party affiliation and personal beliefs. But remember, for the past eight years Governor LePage and his allies came after union workers, and they promise to continue those attacks if re-elected. We cannot afford to lose what we have worked so hard for. Please make sure you, your family and friends vote on November 6.

Your one vote does make a difference!

John Martell, President
Professional Fire Fighters of Maine

It's Time to Get Out The **VOTE!**
November 6th, 2018