

action

impact

RESULTS

FIRST QUARTER 2010



Chief Executive Officer Tarren Bragdon talks with reporters at a Statehouse rally to oppose higher taxes.

NO NEW TAXES

While liberal special interests demanded higher taxes to fill the budget gap, MHPC protected Maine taxpayers. We circulated petitions, raised the issue with the press and on talk radio, urged our members to contact their elected officials and organized a Statehouse rally to oppose higher taxes. The result? A supplemental budget passed that did not raise taxes, demoralizing the Far Left in Maine.

Over the past several months Americans, like never before, became informed, and united to stand up for freedom and fight back against big government. In Maine, MHPC led the charge:



OBAMACARE AND THE HEALTH CARE TAKEOVER

We reached out to 68,000 households to invite them to join a statewide Telephone Townhall on ObamaCare, and helped hundreds of Mainers leave more than one thousand voicemails with their Congressmen and Senators.

GreatSchoolsForME.org

When it comes to K-12 public education, Maine is a high-cost, mediocre-results state. Using GreatSchoolsForME.org, a new Web tool spearheaded by education policy director Steve Bowen, everyone can get the facts on how much our schools spend, how much superintendents and teachers are paid, and, most importantly, how students perform.



By The NUMBERS

January through March 2010

Educating the Public and Building Maine's Freedom Movement

- **11,138** unique visitors to our Web sites
- **2,409** more people joined our e-mail list
- **25** presentations to various civic and community organizations to a combined **1,960** attendees
- **7** policy events hosted with **321** attendees, including **46** first-time attendees
- **236** media mentions or citations
- **265** donations, including **105** new donors

KEEPING SCHOOL DECISIONS LOCAL



Voter control of local school budgets lets parents and property taxpayers keep a focus on spending restraints and results. When legislators attempted to take away your right to vote on local school budgets, MHPC engaged. With your help, our members flooded their e-mail inboxes, packed the hearing and defeated the bill.

MaineOpenGov.org

Take a look at the expanded MaineOpenGov.org and exercise your Right to Know how your tax dollars are spent. Sam Adolphsen, Center for Open Government coordinator, added 2009 new payroll listings for State Employees and Local School Teachers and brand-new clickable charts and graphs for all payroll, property tax and school spending data.

TOWARD GREATER TRANSPARENCY

Chris Cinquemani, Director of Communications, arranged for the first time ever, a partnership with MHPC, the Maine Civil Liberties Union and the Maine Press Association during Sunshine Week in March to promote legislation for an expanded and more timely Right to Know law. A bipartisan group of legislators has already pledged to work with us to pass this new transparency legislation to strengthen our Freedom of Access laws.