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**RETAIL  
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February 5, 2025

Senator Mike Tipping, Chair  
Representative Amy Roeder, Chair  
Members of the Labor Committee

**RE: Testimony in OPPOSITION to LD 61, An Act to Regulate Employer Surveillance to Protect Workers**

Dear Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder and members of the Labor Committee:

The Maine Grocers & Food Producers Association and the Retail Association of Maine are providing joint testimony on *LD 61, An Act to Regulate Employer Surveillance to Protect Workers*. Our business trade associations represent Main Street businesses including independently owned and operated grocery stores and supermarkets, general merchandise and specialty retailers, convenience stores, distributors, and supporting partners — together representing more than 450 members statewide. Maine's retail sector employs more than 85,000 Mainers.

We do appreciate the clarification in the proposed bill that employee surveillance does not include security cameras for security or safety purposes. Similar to last year's LD 949, we understand the intent of LD 61 is to examine and regulate the use of things like productivity software for remote workers.

However, we were disappointed to see LD 61 include a private right of action in this revised proposal. We are strongly opposed to a private right of action as it will only lead to rampant litigation that will drive up the cost of doing business in Maine.

In the waning days of the session last year, there was an amendment that would have removed the private right of action, and added fines of \$100 to \$500 per violation to be enforced by the Maine Department of Labor. Regardless, we remain opposed to this proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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