

MEMO OF OPPOSITION
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February 4, 2025

Honorable Representative Roeder
Committee on Labor
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0100

Re: Testimony on LD 61 – *An Act to Regulate Employer Surveillance to Protect Workers*

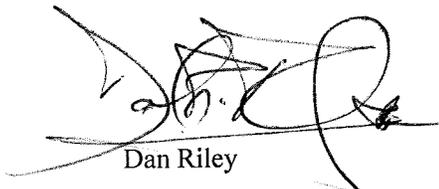
My name is Dan Riley, an attorney with the firm of Norman, Hanson & DeTroy in Portland. I serve as counsel for the Retail Lumber Dealers Association of Maine (RLDAM), which represents independent lumber and building material dealers, manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, and other associated businesses in the state of Maine. Our industry employs more than 20,000 Maine residents. The Retail Lumber Dealers Association opposes LD 61.

While we understand that this bill is primarily aimed at regulating employer surveillance of employees working on computers, RLDAM has concerns that the bill's vague definitions could unintentionally impact many aspects of our industry, particularly in ways that could undermine safety, security, and regulatory compliance.

Many RLDAM members rely on GPS monitoring systems to improve delivery efficiency, driver safety, and compliance with federal regulations. In fact, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) requires commercial trucks to have Electronic Logging Devices (ELDs), which incorporate GPS tracking. If LD 61 restricts or allows employees to refuse GPS monitoring, it could create inefficiencies, regulatory conflicts, and safety risks for our industry.

Additionally, the bill's broad language could be interpreted to restrict the use of cameras in the workplace. Many RLDAM members use cameras to monitor mill operations, production processes, and workflow efficiency—tools essential for ensuring smooth business operations. Security cameras also play a critical role in theft prevention, and many members utilize in-vehicle cameras—both inward- and outward-facing—not for punitive surveillance, but for accident prevention and driver protection, much like GPS tracking.

We urge the bill's sponsor and this committee to refine the bill's definitions to prevent unintended consequences—particularly any restrictions that would conflict with federally mandated safety measures or undermine best practices that protect both employees and businesses.


Dan Riley