



MAINE AFL-CIO

A Union of Unions Standing for Maine Workers
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Testimony of Maine AFL-CIO Legislative & Political Director, Adam Goode in Support of LD 1337, “An Act to Require a Corporation That Files a Tax Return in the State to File a Tax Disclosure Statement”

Senator Grohoski, Representative Perry and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, my name is Adam Goode. I'm the Legislative and Political Director of the Maine AFL-CIO. We represent 40,000 working people in the state of Maine. We work to improve the lives and working conditions of our members and all working people. We testify in support of LD 1337.

LD 1337 gives Maine an opportunity to shine a light on how much big corporations pay, or don't pay, in state taxes. Hardworking Mainers, including union members pay their fair share into the tax system that benefits us all by paying for services we all use and need.

We have little information about how much corporations pay in state taxes in Maine, but we do know at the national level that corporate tax avoidance is a huge issue costing billions of dollars a year. We also know that Maine gives away over a billion dollars in tax breaks to businesses each year.

Mainers deserve to know if their tax dollars are going to line the pockets of wealthy, out-of-state corporations who don't pay their fair share in taxes. When wealthy corporations dodge taxes, it hurts Maine's people, communities, and small businesses, and leaves everyday Mainers to pick up the tab.

Corporations benefit from the things hard working Mainers pay taxes for, including infrastructure and education. We should ensure they pay their fair share into the system they profit from.

We urge the committee to support this bill, because how much corporations pay in taxes impacts all of us, and we need greater transparency to know if our tax system is fair and just.