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## Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

### In Opposition to LD 1588, *An Act to Provide Public Sector Labor Unions Reasonable Access to Information Regarding Employees*

April 24, 2023

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Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder and members of the Labor and Housing Committee. My name is Kate Dufour, and I am submitting testimony in opposition to LD 1588 on behalf of the 70 municipal leaders elected by their peers to serve on the Association's Legislative Policy Committee and directed to establish positions on bills of municipal interest.

Please accept this after deadline testimony on LD 1588, as MMA's Legislative Policy Committee had not established a position in time for the public hearing but recently met and directed staff to oppose the measure.

Not only do municipal leaders believe the existing law provides ample time for representatives of labor unions to request employee data, often the process for accessing employee information is considered during negotiations over union contracts. The concern among municipal officials is that providing this authority in state statutes will cause a shift in the employee and employer relations that could adversely impact the property taxpayers who fund labor contracts.

Thank you for considering the municipal perspective on this issue. If you have any questions about the Association's position on this bill, please do not hesitate to contact me at [kdufour@memun.org](mailto:kdufour@memun.org) or 1-800-452-8786.