

Peter Triandafillou
Orono
LD 1578

Testimony in opposition to LD1578
Submitted 1/11/24
Peter Triandafillou
Orono, Maine

Distinguished members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee,

My name is Peter Triandafillou, and I reside in Orono. I am submitting testimony in opposition to LD1578.

Regardless of how one feels about the Electoral College (EC), there are two very important reasons not to adopt the policies in LD1578.

First, the EC is very clearly described in our Constitution. Changing our method of electing a president requires us to modify our Constitution, which is certainly a high bar to clear, but it's the proper way to go about it. LD1578 goes around the clear intent of the Constitution, and is likely illegal.

Second, the EC gives low population states a stronger voice in the electoral process. Rather than adding Maine's small number of "popular" votes to a large national total (or the total of the States in this Compact), candidates must win our state to win our Electoral College votes. This makes it much more likely that candidates will visit Maine. This is the reason that many low population states, including Nevada, rejected this proposal.

The EC may not be the best way to elect a President, but it gives our state a more important role in the process. Adopting LD1578 diminishes our influence and voice in the electoral process. I urge you to vote ought not to pass on LD1578. Thank you for your time.