Leslie Poulin
South Portland
LD 210

I oppose LD 210 "An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2025, June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027", and it "ought not to pass".

I see a proposed $11.6 billion biennial budget for fiscal years 2026-2027. Along with the already high taxes we as Maine citizens are subjected to, I see there are many new proposed taxes to cover this insane budget and $450 million shortfall in the general fund over the next two fiscal years, as well as a $118 million shortfall in our Medicaid program (MaineCare) in the current fiscal year.

This punch in the gut could not have come at a worse time.

We are still trying to recover from high inflation, the cost of literally all goods and services is still through the roof, housing is unaffordable, per WalletHub Maine has the highest property tax per percentage of income in the United States and we have the fourth highest overall total tax burden in the nation right now. Is the Legislature and Governor trying to drive us to the number one highest taxed state? When does this continuing to tax us to the breaking point end?

https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-highest-lowest-tax-burden/20494

Why isn't the State Legislature and Governor working to keep Maine citizens in the state, vs driving them out? These high taxes will be unsustainable for many. We have the oldest median age population of all the 50 states. It appears as though we will soon be an old state of the "haves" and the "have nots". Many Maine citizens barely getting by financially is not a good look for the state, and it's infuriating that we've gotten to this point!

Again, I oppose LD 210", and it "ought not to pass". The budget must be pared back to the point where our taxes are not raised or better yet, lowered. We can't afford this!

Thank you, ☐ ☐
Leslie Poulin