Kaitlin LaCasse Raymond LD 390

Chairman Hickman and Honorable Members of the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of LD 390 – An Act to Raise the Contribution Cap for Unenrolled Candidates. LD 390 would simply align contribution limits for unenrolled candidates with the realities of the campaign cycle. Serious unenrolled candidates campaign at the same pace and for the same duration as partisan candidates – they cannot and do not wait until after the June primary to begin. Under the current rules, unenrolled candidates need to receive contributions from twice as many donors as a party candidate to receive the same amount of funding.

The FEC recognizes the importance of parity for unenrolled candidates when it comes to contribution limits, "Even when independent and non-major party candidates are not involved in an actual primary, they are entitled to a primary limit.\*"

Thank you for your consideration.

Kaitlin LaCasse Raymond, ME

\*https://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/candidate-taking-receipts/cont ribution-limits/