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To Members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Regarding L.D. 594, "Resolve, Directing the State Auditor to Audit All State Agencies."

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Sen. Baldacci, Rep. Salisbury, and members of the State and Local Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony before you today. I'm Penny Morrell, taxpayer and citizen of the Town of Belgrade, Maine.

I support L.D. 594, "Resolve, Directing the State Auditor to Audit All State Agencies."

I believe this bill is necessary and has been for years. I worked in DHHS for three or more years trying to get to retirement and witnessed firsthand waste, fraud, and abuse of public funds. I also worked for the non-profit, Maine Administrators of Services for Children With Disabilities (MADSEC), and can testify to waste in the Department of Education as well.

The media covered the fact that the previous Senate President was paid mileage for trips to his home in Aroostook County that he never made because he was staying in Augusta. He never had to pay back those fraudulent monies he charged us, the State of Maine. That's just one more example of what I'm talking about.

With what has been discovered at the Federal level of waste, fraud, and abuse, it only makes sense to audit every department in Maine State Government to gut the waste, fraud, and abuse of taxpayer funds once and for all.

I urge this committee to vote "ought to pass" on LD 594. Thank you.