

Carol Wishcamper
Freeport
LD 1047 & LD 1089

Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier, and members of the Taxation Committee, my name is Carol Wishcamper, and I live in Freeport. I am submitting this testimony in support of LD 1047 (Unearned Income Tax) and LD 1089 (Millionaire Tax).

My husband and I are wealthy Mainers who would pay additional taxes under these proposals, and we strongly support passing these bills.

It is my personal goal to dismantle systems of oppression and replace them with systems of care through redistributing wealth. I believe that a more just tax code, starting with higher taxes on the wealthy, is a critical step in this process.

Vast accumulations of wealth undermine democracy, and they are currently a feature of our system, not a bug. I want to see a future where safety is not tied to wealth. In that future, rich people will be better off, too. Progressive wealthy people, like my husband and I, will seek to redistribute our wealth in equitable ways, but the truly equitable way to give power back to the people is to allow to democratic process to decide where excessive wealth goes.

The time is now to make our society more fair, starting with our state. I ask this Committee to vote 'Ought to Pass' on LD 1047 and LD 1089 to make Maine's tax structure more fair.