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Topsham
LD 1148

I VERY STRONGLY URGE you to vote OUGHT NOT TO PASS on LD1148, An Act to improve access to absentee ballots for municipal elections for Uniformed Service Voters and Overseas Voters. First of all, I believe that military and non-military overseas voters need to be separated. This is to help prevent abuse of the system of overseas voting for the military. That should be separated and maintained to bet of our abilities for our true heroes! Secondly, I see no reason why someone who lives overseas should vote in a municipal election if they don't pay taxes here. That should be paramount to getting a ballot. Thirdly, this bill states that uocava ballots will be good for 18 months and kept in a "central location," not specified as secure, and brought to the municipal election by the end of election day. This could put a lot of strain on the municipality to handle these ballots if received at 7:59 pm on election day. There is no indication that there will be a locked place for the Secretary of State to hold these. Why wouldn't they go to the town immediately? So MANY places for a chance to manipulate the outcome of an election. The people of the town show say how they want to handle these votes, not the Legislature. Uocava, Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, needs to be separated and secured and handled by the municipal officials, not the S.O.S. Thank you for please voting OUGHT NOT TO PASS on this very convoluted and unsecure method of handling uocava votes.