



Supplemental **Testimony in Support** of **LD 1131**, “An Act to Reform the Process by Which a Person May Petition an Agency to Adopt or Modify Rules Under the Maine Administrative Procedure Act”

Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury, and distinguished members of the Committee and State and Local Government, my name is Jacob Posik and I serve as the director of legislative affairs at Maine Policy Institute. Maine Policy is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to expand individual liberty and economic freedom in Maine.

I am unable to join you today, and our policy analyst, Harris Van Pate, submitted written testimony in support of this bill on behalf of our organization. I wanted to committee to be aware, however, that Maine Policy Institute is currently sitting on five different regulatory petitions that we’re prepared to submit to executive branch agencies: 2 to the Department of Health and Human Services; 1 to the Department of Environmental Protection; 1 to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; and 1 to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

The 150-signature threshold under current law for submitting a regulatory petition is laughably low. Maine Policy is prepared to continuously collect 150 signatures and deluge executive branch agencies with our proposed rule changes.

We respectfully urge the committee to change this threshold, or we are prepared to make a mockery of the regulatory petition process until this threshold changes.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me directly at jposik@mainepolicy.org if you have any questions.