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March 14, 2025

Honorable Michael Tipping, Senate Chair
Honorable Amy Roeder, House Chair
Joint Legislative Committee on Labor
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: *Testimony in support of LD 833, An Act to Expand the Earned Paid Leave Exception*

Dear Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and Members of the Committee on Labor:

On behalf of the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce, which represents approximately 650 businesses and nonprofits, and a geographic region of twenty-three communities, I would like to express our support for LD 833, An Act to Expand the Earned Paid Leave Exception.

It has been our experience that Maine employers want to do what is right for their employees. They know that a happy workforce is a productive one which only benefits everyone involved including the business itself. Giving people time off is a good thing. But many of our members have expressed their concern about the reporting requirements for businesses with more than five employees that have already provided earned leave far exceeding the mandatory (now law) 40 hours of paid leave. We believe that those that are exceeding 40 hours should not have the administrative burden of tracking time and adjusting pay to meet the reporting requirements. (We would be satisfied if the law simply required a minimum of 40 hours – it is the added organizational management that is difficult.) This is simply another human resource reporting requirement that adds to many others. And while the intention is to take care of people – as it should be – we feel that those businesses that provide double the requirement or more should not be forced to adhere to this requirement.

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce urges you to support LD 833 backing those businesses that are going above and beyond to provide time off for their employees. We would be grateful for an ought-to-pass vote.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kimberly N. Lindlof
President & CEO
Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce

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