

**Testimony of Beth White  
Maine Service Employees Association, SEIU Local 1989**

**In Support of LD 1587, An Act to Establish Greater Alignment of Penalties for Certain Labor  
Law Violations, sponsored by Representative Matt Beck**

**Before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor  
10am Wednesday, April 16, 2025**

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and members of the Committee on Labor, I'm Beth White, Director of Politics and Legislation for the Maine Service Employees Association, Local 1989 of the Service Employees International Union. We are a labor union representing over 13,000 Maine workers, including public sector workers in all three branches of state government and private sector workers at a number of nonprofit organizations.

We're here today in support of LD 1587, which would codify provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and create a criminal penalty for any person who intentionally or knowingly violates the employment practices laws or the laws governing preference to Maine workers and contractors.

This language currently exists in the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act; this legislation would simply mirror the power of the U.S. Department of Labor but on the State level. We strongly believe that all workers deserve to be respected and protected while in their workplaces and therefore support this legislation.

Thank you and I'd be glad to answer any questions.