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LD 1519

Written Testimony Opposing LD 1519

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on LD 1519. While we support the goal of improving battery product recycling, we oppose this bill as written due to the impractical burden it places on manufacturers and retailers, and the unintended harm it would cause to small Maine businesses. This approach would disproportionately impact independent retailers, while larger corporations—including big tobacco and JUUL—would remain largely unaffected.

We urge the state to pursue a broader, more collaborative path. Industry stakeholders are ready and willing to work with Maine to develop a workable redemption program. A statewide system that includes all battery-containing products—not just vape electronics—and allocates collected funds toward a public collection infrastructure would be far more effective and equitable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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