

John Delea  
East Waterboro  
LD 1666

TO: The Honorable Craig Hickman

The Honorable Laura Supica, Co-Chairs

Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

RE: LD 1666 — An Act to Include in the Ranked-choice Election Method for General and Special Elections the Offices of Governor, State Senator and State Representative and to Make Other Related Changes

Dear Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs,

My name is John Delea, and I live in Waterboro, Maine. I am testifying in support of LD 1666. I support this bill because ranked-choice voting is the best election method we have right now. It guarantees that an election with three or more candidates will result in a winner that's supported by the majority of voters. Ranked-choice voting will also prevent splitting the ticket, something that could certainly occur during the gubernatorial election next year.

I'm an independent voter and am often not satisfied with the candidates represented by the two major political parties. Ranked-choice voting allows me to rank my preferred candidate first, knowing that whatever the results may be, the tabulation will always guarantee a majority winner. Ranked-choice voting levels the playing field and gives independent candidates a better chance. Over time, the more that we use ranked-choice voting, the more that the results will benefit the voter and improve voter satisfaction and confidence in the electoral process. Overall, ranked-choice voting is not partisan, nor does it favor one political party over another.

I urge the committee to support this bill. Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to testify.