

April 25, 2025

Honorable Joseph Baldacci, Chair
Honorable Suzanne Salisbury, Chair
Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government
State House, Room 214
Augusta, Maine 04333

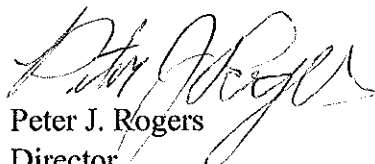
Re: LD 1573 "An Act to Require Legislative Approval for Certain Emergency Powers of the Governor"

Dear Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury and members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government:

I am writing to convey opposition of the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to LD 1573. Similar to LD 1524 "An Act to Enhance Legislative Participation in the Governor's Exercise of Emergency Powers," we believe this bill would significantly undermine the authority of this and future Governors to protect the public health, safety, and welfare during civil emergencies. Additionally, we believe such legislation is unnecessary to ensure the Legislature retains adequate authority to influence a Governor's emergency response as it sees fit. The Office of the Governor detailed its opposition to LD 1524 "An Act to Enhance Legislative Participation in the Governor's exercise of Emergency Powers" in the attached letter from April 14, 2025. As the same arguments apply to LD 1573, we are including it for reference.

We ask you to reject LD 1573 which would result in needless and heedless changes to a critically important statutory framework. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Peter J. Rogers
Director