Sheila Littlefield Kennebunk LD 1149

My name is Sheila Littlefield and I live in Kennebunk. I am sending this testimony in opposition to LD1149. There are many reasons to oppose this bill, but today I would like to point out the immense waste of taxpayer money if this bill passes. The Fiscal Impact Statement estimates the cost to the State for the initial year at \$1,141,840 with over \$300,000 per year going forward. This does NOT include all of the additional costs to the individual municipalities to do all of the required actions that this bill includes.

Looking at the figures for alleged voter fraud that are available, this is a lot of money to try to correct a problem that is so miniscule that it makes no difference in our election outcomes. The Brennan Center estimates the incidence of voter fraud in the US may be 0.0003% and the Heritage Foundation puts the incidence at 0.000096%. Most of the incorrect votes were the result of accidental error on the part of the voter. (Information from Wikipedia.) Using our statistics from the November 20204 election, there were a total of 830,801 votes cast for a Presidential candidate in Maine. This would indicate that the number of erroneous/fraudulent votes cast in the entire state in that election was 2.5 votes (Brennan Center) or less than 1 (Heritage Foundation). Neither of these would have made any impact on the final outcome in any of our elections, federal, state or local.

Spending this kind of money and creating chaos in our established and well-functioning elections does not make any sense at all. I urge the committee to vote to oppose this bill. Thank you for considering this information and for giving me the opportunity to submit this testimony.