

Colin Vettier  
Portland  
LD 1787

Dear members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs committee,

My name is Colin Vettier and I live in Portland Maine.

I am writing to ask you to support LD 1787 - An Act to Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act.

In the past few years we have seen locally how easy it is for corporate interest to bend the will of Mainers. In the past few months we have witnessed the sad result of oligarchy taking over our all aspects of our democracy, resulting in a wide dumpster fire where all basic American values are now being tossed to fuel the fire (freedom, checks and balances, civil rights, pluribus unum, etc.)

Meanwhile our Canadian neighbors continue to show us that campaign finance is just plain common sense:

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/campaign-finance-system-americans-could-have-had>.

Besides, we know that Clean Elections encourages more people to run for office and allows them to serve without being beholden to big donors or special interests — only to the voters in their district. Mainers need to be able to trust that district attorneys, sheriffs, and county commissioners can carry out their duties impartially. Like judges, these officials must operate “without fear or favor.”

It would be the first expansion in Clean Elections since 1996 and makes Maine the first state to provide public funding for candidates in these key law enforcement positions.

Let's lead the way back to a clean democracy. Support LD 1787.

Kindly.