

To: Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the
Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs
From: Stephen Majercik, 15 Beech Dr., Brunswick, ME, 04011
Re: Testimony in opposition to LD 1149, *An Act to Require an Individual to Present
Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting*

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, my name is Stephen Majercik and I live in Brunswick. I have lived in Maine for all but six of the last 39 years. I was a faculty member in the Computer Science Department at Bowdoin College from 2000 to 2023. I am now retired. I am writing to testify in opposition to **LD 1149**, *An Act to Require an Individual to Present Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting*.

This bill would impose unnecessary and harmful voting restrictions in a state that already has one of the most secure and accessible election systems in the country.

- These restrictions would harm every kind of voter, but especially seniors, rural Mainers, and people with limited access to transportation or documentation. The result would be disenfranchisement—not greater security.
- The financial cost is significant. Taxpayers would be forced to pay for new bureaucratic systems to verify IDs, train officials, and provide free identification. For a problem that doesn't exist, this is a waste of public funds.
- There is no credible evidence that photo ID laws prevent voter fraud. Maine already has strong safeguards in place, including strict registration procedures and ballot tracking systems. Our elections are secure.
- This bill appears to be part of a national push to restrict voting rights, modeled on laws recently passed in states like Ohio. These policies are not tailored to Maine's needs, and importing them undermines our local democratic traditions.
- It is troubling that thousands of dollars from out-of-state donors are being used to influence this proposal. Maine voters should be able to shape Maine laws—especially those that affect our fundamental rights.
- Maine has a proud history of strong voter participation and secure elections. We rank among the highest in voter turnout in the nation—not in spite of our accessible voting laws, but because of them. Same-day registration, no-excuse absentee ballots, and the absence of a photo ID requirement all contribute to a system that works. We should protect that legacy, not undermine it.

I urge you to vote **Ought Not to Pass** on LD 1149, and I hope our strong rejection of this deeply flawed bill will inspire other states to follow our lead.

Thank you for considering my testimony.