

Mary Ann Larson
Bangor
LD 1149

Good morning Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Mary Ann Larson and I live in Bangor. I speak in opposition to LD 1149.

LD 1149 seems to me to be a solution to a problem that doesn't exist. When we register to vote in Maine we have to provide evidence of our identity. In person voter fraud in Maine is a Class C crime that's punishable by up to 5 years in jail and a \$5,000 fine. Why in the world would someone risk that to cast a single vote that would likely have little impact? The true is that in person voter fraud is nearly non existent. Voter fraud in general is nearly non existent.

Passing LD 1149 would also impose other impediments to casting a ballot by limiting the use of some currently used IDs, severely limiting the number of drop boxes and make absentee voting more difficult by limiting the number of days and the ways an absentee ballot can be obtained. This will be particularly difficult for older folks and handicapped individuals.

Maine has a proud history of high levels of participation in our elections. Our elections are secure, safe and encourage citizen participation. Let's keep it that way.

Please vote in opposition to LD 1149.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak and for all the work you do for the people of Maine.