

To: The Honorable Craig Hickman
The Honorable Laura Supica, Co-Chairs
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal
Affairs

Date: 5/2/2025

Regarding LD 1149 *An Act to Require an Individual to Present
Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting*

Dear Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Joint
Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs,

My name is Cathleen Miller and I live in Scarborough. I am testifying
in opposition of LD 1149. I oppose this bill because it will make it
more difficult for Mainers to vote. As you likely know, Maine has some
of the strongest voter participation in the country. Democracy depends
upon the broadest number of people from all parts of our state to have
access to voting. Our current policies allowing same-day voter
registration, absentee voting in a variety of forms, and voting
without having to provide photo ID allow more people to legally
participate in our democracy. If we take this access away, we are no
longer living in a democracy. Our policies will be decided by the few
not the many, and the people disenfranchised by this bill will likely
be people who reside far from polling places, older adults, people
with disabilities, and Tribal community members. This is an
unacceptable assault on our strong voting system.

As someone who has participated as a poll watcher, I can attest to the
care that local election officials take to check and count ballots.
These people work hard to protect our free and fair elections. If
there is even the slightest question about a ballot, there are
processes that determine how to handle that situation.

Our elections are extremely safe and fair, but this bill would imperil
that system and create unnecessary cost to taxpayers, and upend the
processes that our election officials have overseen. This bill is
offering a supposed solution to a problem we do not have. This bill is
unnecessary and is a dangerous threat to our democracy. I urge you to
oppose LD 1149.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to testify.

Cathleen Miller
Scarborough
LD 1149

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