

Concerning L. D. 1963

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Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and members of the committee,

My name is Barbara Russell and I live in the town of Rome, Me. While I cannot testify in person I hope you will consider my reasons ( because of my work schedule) for supporting this bill.

I support the proposal because anyone working for a company is subject to losing their job if they disclose infractions to Maine Law that the company is committing. This bill addresses that with the anonymity clause. While the person who is whistleblowing will be found out. It gives them time to make adjustments necessary to go on with their life.

It helps regulators know where the possible infractions are happening. By protecting whistleblowers, companies will have a greater need to be honest and do their work by the law, not doing things "nobody will notice".

It allows for better appliance to the laws in an area where we citizens have very few choices as to who provides those services to us.

Our present whistleblower law requires a whistleblower to have to report the issue internally before regulators will pay attention. This put the whistleblower out of a job immediately with not much evidence of the corruptions they saw.

There are many other reasons why this bill will be a huge improvement over the old one. But the four I just gave should be enough for working to protect Maine citizens from companies who want to operate with no concern for their consumers, the environment or the laws of Maine.

thank you,  
Barbara Russell