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Secretary of State

MAINE STATE ARCHIVES

Department of the Secretary of State

Kate McBrien
Maine State Archivist

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LD 133, "An Act to Include a Representative of Newspaper and Other Press Interests on the Archives Advisory Board"

*Testimony Provided by Kate McBrien, Maine State Archivist
January 31, 2023*

Senator Nangle, Representative Stover and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government:

My name is Kate McBrien. I am a resident of Union and I serve as the Maine State Archivist. The Maine State Archives fully supports LD 133 and welcomes the opportunity to add a member of the press to our Archives Advisory Board.

The Archives Advisory Board already consists of nine skilled and dedicated professionals, each bringing their own unique expertise to the advisory role of the Board. The Board members represent important perspectives, such as legal, financial, local government, historical, and state agency viewpoints. Their review and input greatly support the Archives' ability to develop and approve retention schedules for state records. The Maine State Archives seeks to add a member with a newspaper or other press interest to ensure public and press needs for information are met, so that State government can be appropriately transparent to all who have an interest. This addition to our Archives Advisory Board membership will greatly assist the Maine State Archives to serve the people of Maine.

I thank you for your consideration and am available to answer any questions.