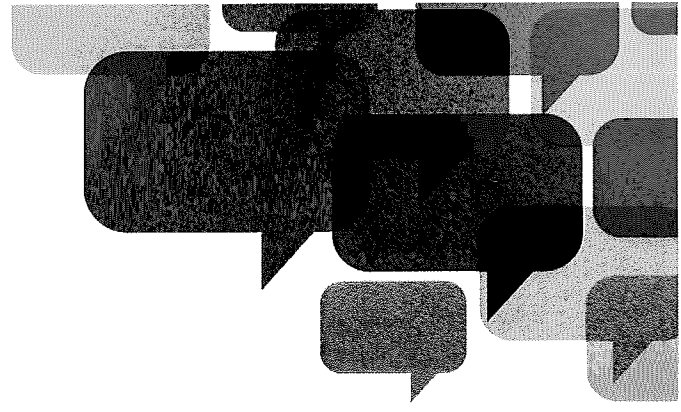




**RETAIL
ASSOCIATION OF
MAINE**
Voice of Maine Retail

45 Melville Street, Suite 1
Augusta, ME 04330
Phone: 207.623.1149
www.retailmaine.org



March 28, 2023

Senator Glenn “Chip” Curry, Chair
Representative Tiffany Roberts, Chair
Members of the Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Commerce Committee

RE: Testimony in OPPOSITION to LD 93, An Act to Ensure Access for All Caregivers to Diaper Changing Stations in Public Restrooms – As Amended

Dear Senator Curry, Representative Roberts, and members of the IDEA Committee:

My name is Curtis Picard and I am the President and CEO of the Retail Association of Maine. I am a resident of Topsham. We have more than 350 members statewide and represent retailers of all sizes. Maine’s retailers employ more than 85,000 Mainers. I am here today to testify in opposition to LD 93, as amended by the sponsor’s amendment.

While we appreciate the intent of the sponsor’s legislation, we are concerned that it is trying to enact a one-sized fits all approach to address a problem we are not sure exists. Although LD 93 has a number of exceptions, including whether the cost of installing would not be feasible, who would determine what is feasible? How do you handle a situation where the space constraints of the rest room would make it difficult to install one? We are concerned that small businesses, in particular, will not understand whether or not they are required to install one or not based on their localities use of differing building codes.

We would also suggest that there are a number of public restrooms that would not be ideal locations – whether they are places like smoking or vape shops, or other places that would typically not admit children.

Lastly, enforcement would be through the Attorney General’s office after a complaint of violation is made. We think this would put businesses in a difficult spot of being cited for a law that would be difficult to comply with in many situations.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts with you, and we look forward to the discussion.

Sincerely,
Curtis Picard, CAE
President and CEO