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Testimony in Support of LD 1725
“An Act to Strengthen Legislative Oversight of Government Agencies and Programs by
Providing the Government Oversight Committee Access to Confidential Records”

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

My name is Amy Arata and I represent District 104 which includes New Gloucester and part of Gray. I am here today in support of LD 1725, “An Act to Strengthen Legislative Oversight of Government Agencies and Programs by Providing the Government Oversight Committee Access to Confidential Records.”

I take my position on the Government Oversight Committee very seriously. We have a duty as a governing body to hold people and agencies accountable for their actions. In order to do so, we need to have the ability to review certain documents from departments that may obtain privileged information.

This bill states that the Government Oversight Committee may receive information and records that are privileged and confidential and that that information and those records are exempt from public disclosure. There are certain circumstances where this is necessary for our committee to effectively do our jobs.

I urge you to vote ought to pass to allow our committee the ability to receive these documents.

Respectfully,

Amy Arata
State Representative