

THE MAINE SENATE 131st Legislature 3 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

## **TESTIMONY OF SENATOR MATTHEW POULIOT**

## Sponsor of LD 1923

## An Act to Provide for Licensing of and Tax Collection from Remote Retail Sellers of Pipe Tobacco and Premium Cigars

Public Hearing: May 17, 2023

Senator Baldacci and Representative Meyer and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services Committee I am Senator Matt Pouliot and I represent Senate District 15 I am here to present LD 1923 "An Act to Provide for Licensing of and Tax Collection from Remote Retail Sellers of Pipe Tobacco and Premium Cigars"

This bill creates a path to compliance for online retailers of premium cigars to be licensed and to collect and remit excise taxes. It was brought to me by the Cigar Association of America as part of a nationwide effort at uniformity in this area of tax law. The bill also has provisions that amend Title 22 in order to not conflict with the new provisions in Title 36. My understanding is that CAA has been working with the Department of Revenue on a similar effort in a broader revenue bill. Given that, my view is while we hold this hearing today, we carry this bill over so that the revenue piece can be completely ironed out and we do the corresponding amendments to Title 22 once that has been accomplished.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation

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