



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MAINE.
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

HEATHER JOHNSON
COMMISSIONER

January 9, 2024

Testimony of Victoria Foley

In opposition to LD 1716

Senator Curry, Representative Roberts, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, my name is Victoria Foley, and I am the Director of Legislative Affairs and Communications at the Department of Economic & Community Development. I am here today to present testimony in opposition to LD 1716.

The department is opposed to this bill for several reasons. Our comments are based on the original language of the bill. We have not seen the proposed amendment.

While we appreciate the intention of the bill sponsor, the department has concerns with the feasibility and cost of carrying out the requirements of the bill as proposed. The task of identifying each manufacturer of the consumer electronics noted in the bill (and all models of those products) is a sizeable one. Soliciting a repairability index for each model of each product and developing and maintaining a website for consumers would be time consuming and costly.

We also note that the bill also does not detail the process for calculation of repairability index score. Developing such a system of scoring is outside the current expertise of our department.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns about this bill. I would be happy to answer questions you may have, either now or at the work session.