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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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January 16, 2024

Testimony of Representative Holly B. Stover presenting

LD 2047, An Act to Increase the Expenditure Limit for Informal Bidding Processes and Update References to the Office of Procurement Services

Before the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Senator Nangle and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on the State and Local Government. I stand before you today to present LD 2047, An Act to Increase the Expenditure Limit for Informal Bidding Processes and Update References to the Office of Professional Services.

LD 2047 increases the limit for using informal bidding processes for the procurement of goods or services from \$10,000 or less to \$25,000 or less and replaces "oral proposals" with "informal written quotes" in this provision.

This bill also replaces the term "Bureau of Purchases" with "Office of Procurement Services" and the term "State Purchasing Agent" with "Chief Procurement Officer" throughout the Maine Revised Statutes and makes minor technical corrections and grammatical changes.

I am writing to express my strong support for LD 2047, which aims to increase the expenditure limit for informal bidding processes and update references to the Office of Professional Services. I have witnessed firsthand the challenges and limitations imposed by the current expenditure limits, and I believe that the proposed changes are crucial for enhancing efficiency and promoting transparency in our procurement processes.

Increasing the expenditure limit for informal bidding processes is a sensible and strategic move. The current limits may hinder our ability to swiftly respond to emerging needs or take advantage of cost-effective opportunities. Raising these limits will empower DAFS to conduct business more effectively in a timely and efficient manner.

Thank you for your time and attention, and I'm happy to answer any questions.