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Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

Neither for Nor Against

LD 13 - An Act to Provide Funds Necessary for the Production and Delivery of Election Materials by the Secretary of State and to Reconvene the Working Group to Study Polling Places at Schools

January 27, 2025

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is Rebecca Lambert, and I am providing testimony neither for nor against LD 13 on behalf of the Maine Municipal Association's (MMA) elected 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). For reference, the LPC guides the MMA's advocacy efforts and establishes positions on bills of municipal interest. The LPC has not yet had the opportunity to weigh in on this proposal, they will do so on January 30. Once LPC has had a chance to discuss the proposal, I will provide updated testimony for the committee's consideration.

That being said, historically MMA has appreciated all suggested appropriations to fully fund election operation, and at a time where expenses are growing without an equal increase in revenues, additional pressures are being placed on the property taxpayers. Maine's dedicated election officials take the act of conducting elections very seriously and any attempt to provide adequate funding and an atmosphere that is safe, welcoming and free from harassment or intimidation for citizens to cast their ballot, is encouraged by municipal officials.

Thank you for your time and for considering the municipal perspective on this issue.

