



**MAINE MUNICIPAL
ASSOCIATION SINCE 1936**

60 Community Drive | Augusta, ME 04330-9486

1-800-452-8786 (in state)

(T) 207-623-8428

(F) 207-624-0129

Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

In Opposition To

LD 199 - An Act to Change the Limits on Candidates' Communications with Voters at the Polls

February 3, 2025

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is Rebecca Lambert, and I am providing testimony in opposition to LD 158 on behalf of the Maine Municipal Association's (MMA) elected 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). For reference, the LPC guides MMA's advocacy efforts and establishes positions on bills of municipal interest.

There is a longstanding joke within local government that the clerks run the municipality, and it behooves us all to keep them happy. You know, "if the clerks ain't happy, ain't no one happy!"

All jokes aside, election officials have an extremely important but difficult job, and the current political climate has added to disruption and security concerns for both voters and elections workers at the polls. Given the varying degrees of comfort among individuals, reducing or eliminating the potential for conflict during voting is of utmost importance to all municipal officials.

Discussion also pointed to the fact that most voters have decided who they will be voting for before going to the polls, insinuating that a voter wouldn't likely be swayed by a candidate greeting them when they arrived to cast their vote.

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



WWW.MEMUN.ORG