

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony of Rep. David Boyer introducing

LD 749, An Act to Ensure That the Will of the Voters Is Reflected in Interim Appointments of United States Senators

Before the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

March 24, 2025

Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury and esteemed members of the Committee on State and Local Government, my name is Rep. David Boyer and I am proud to introduce LD 749, An Act to Ensure That the Will of the Voters Is Reflected in Interim Appointments of United States Senators

This bill requires that when there is a vacancy of a sitting US Senator, then the Governor, who currently has the authority to approve the appointment, would have to appoint someone who is a member of the same party of the US Senator that vacated the seat.

The idea that any Governor could appoint someone to the US Senate for up to a six year term from a different party flies into the face of the will of the voters that elected that US Senator.

Another idea would be to hold a special election at a reasonable time after the vacancy occurs. Either path would better reflect the will of the Maine voters who elected that person.

I appreciate the committee's consideration and would welcome any questions Thank you!