

Janet T. Mills Governor

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL REGULATION BUREAU OF CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION



Joan F. Cohen Commissioner

Linda Conti Superintendent

Testimony of Linda Conti Superintendent Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection Department of Professional and Financial Regulations In Opposition to LD 1110

"An Act to Require Remittance Fees for Money Transmissions"

Before the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Tuesday, April 1, 2025; 1:00 P.M.

Senator Bailey, Representative Gramlich and Members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, I am Linda Conti and I serve as the Superintendent of the Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection (BCCP).

This bill imposes a fee or tax on a sender who wires money via Western Union, for example, and other money transmitters licensed by the Bureau. Those who pay the tax and file a Maine income tax return can offset the fee against their state income tax liability.

I do not know if this will raise significant revenue. However, this service is typically used by the unbanked and the underbanked i.e. those who cannot afford bank accounts. It could have a disproportionate impact on lower income people who do not make enough money to pay income taxes, and on non-residents because they do not file income tax returns here.

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Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions now or at the work session.