



NORTH ATLANTIC STATES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS  
United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

Northern New England Carpenters Locals 349 & 352

John Leavitt ☎ (207) 252-4800 ✉ [jleavitt@nasrcc.org](mailto:jleavitt@nasrcc.org)

### **Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services:**

Chair	Sen Donna Bailey	Rep Poppy Arford	Rep Paul Flynn
	Sen Joseph Baldacci	Rep Michelle Boyer	Rep Robert Foley
	Sen David Hagen	Rep Marygrace Cimino	Rep Anne-Marie Mastraccio
Chair	Rep Kristi Mathieson	Rep Sally Cluchey	Rep Joshua Morris
			Rep Rolf Olsen

### **LD 874: An Act to Provide Relief to Federal or State Employees Affected by a Federal Government or State Government Shutdown**

Dear Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson and members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services,

My name is John Leavitt, I am the Regional Manager for Commercial Carpenters Local 349, Interior System Local 352 in NNE as well as Plastic Fabricators and Shipwrights Local 3073 at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (PNSY) and I live in Saco, Maine.

I ask you today to support the Federal and State workers in Maine as they increasingly face financial uncertainty, through no doing of their own. The 300 members of Local 3073 perform work on nuclear submarines at PNSY, which is a very specific trade.

In February 2025 PNSY workers received an email in the middle of the night stating they had to list 5 things they did last week or they would be fired. Once the message was clarified as they need to respect their role with the Department of Defense and National Security and normally do not communicate their work duties, all 275 employees complied with the order.

At the same time the 25 probationary workers were told they most certainly would be let go. A probationary worker is simply classified as such for the first year of employment to assure they are fit for the role. It was later deemed they would remain employed as they also provide necessary duties to satisfy the Department of Defense and National Security.

The next week an Executive Order was issued at 3:00am on March 28 stating Exclusions from Federal Labor Management Relations Programs that would eliminate union representation.

To say these are unprecedented times would be an enormous understatement. These Federal employees have been waking up to a new set of rules or uncertainty on a weekly basis. Yet they perform their work duties like professionals every day.

This legislation was proposed in the past but held up for various reasons, I believe there is an urgent need for this financial coverage to protect Maine workers who are doing their job with incredible uncertainty if they will not have a job tomorrow. In the case of a government shutdown these employees will go to work as furloughed employees while their grocery bills, housing and vehicle payment remain. It is only fair that they have an option to match their paycheck through a guaranteed short term loan mechanism and pay in full when paid what they are owed by their employer, the Federal Government.

I ask you to vote yes on LD 874 and support State and Federal employees. They are doing very important jobs when we need these dedicated people for national security at a time when this title is so loosely used.

Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_  
John Leavitt