

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0002 (207) 287-1440 TTY: (207) 287-4469

Michael Soboleski

11 Snowy Ridge Road
Phillips, ME 04966
Residence: (207) 400-7233
Michael.soboleski@legislature.maine.gov

April 2025

Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury, and esteemed members of the State & Local Government Committee, I am Representative Mike Soboleski. I come before you today to present my bill, LD 1372 "An Act to Establish a Special Committee to Review Routine Technical Rules"

This bill establishes the Special Committee on Regulatory Review to ensure that the process of adopting routine technical rules adheres to principles of transparency, accountability, and alignment with the public interest. The committee will consist of 12 members, evenly divided between the two chambers of the legislature and the two largest political parties, reflecting a bipartisan and bicameral structure.

The committee's primary responsibility will be to review routine technical rules submitted by agencies to determine their necessity, efficiency, and compliance with legislative intent. The committee will be empowered to approve, amend, or reject these rules. For example:

• Example: An agency submits a rule mandating the use of specific technology for monitoring environmental compliance. The committee would assess whether the rule is practical for businesses, cost-effective, and consistent with environmental policy objectives and does not impose unnecessary costs on communities

Additionally, the committee will have the authority to propose amendments to existing rules or recommend changes to statutes that govern routine technical rulemaking. This ensures that the regulatory framework remains adaptive to evolving needs and priorities.

This legislation upholds the legislature's commitment to good governance by promoting a transparent and deliberative process for rulemaking. It strengthens public trust by ensuring that regulations serve their intended purpose and reflect the interests of the citizens.

Thank you for your time,

Michigal A. Sobrilechi

Michael A. Soboleski State Representative