

Chair Hickman, Chair Supica and the distinguished members of the committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs,

My name is Phoebe Dolan and I am a resident of Belfast, Maine. I represent Maine Youth Power, a youth-led youth movement building power to win human dignity, equity, access and a livable future across rural and suburban Maine.

## I am here in opposition of LD 252 An Act to Withdraw from the National Popular Vote Compact

A large part of Maine Youth Power's work in Maine is activating and turning out young rural Mainers to vote, this last year we contacted over 16,000 young Mainers and worked to get them out to vote. We reached out to voters across many of Maine's counties working to get them educated and to the polls so that their voices were heard.

Maine has a proud history of voter engagement and access, and we believe that staying in the compact for a National Popular Vote is vital to make sure that our voices are counted, one person one vote.

The legislature decided last session that it was important for Maine to join the National Popular Vote Compact and I see nothing that has changed since then that would give us a reason to leave now. The candidate who gets the most votes should be in office, that is only fair. A national popular vote will ensure that basic democratic values—everyone having an equal say—will determine our elections, rather than a complicated system that gives swing states more power, a system which a majority of Americans want to see eliminated. Also, faithless electors in Maine have their votes invalidated. We have an obligation to make federal elections as fair and honest as possible and national popular vote moves us closer to that ideal.

I am here today to ask that you stand in opposition to LD 252 An Act to Withdraw from the National Popular Vote Compact. We made our decision last year and let's stand by it.

Thank you for listening Phoebe Dolan