



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony of Rep. Rafael Macias in support of
LD 1748, An Act to Enhance Business Understanding of Labor Standards
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and esteemed members of the Labor Committee. My name is Rafael Macias, and I represent House District 51, part of Topsham. I'm here to strongly support **LD 1748, An Act to Enhance Business Understanding of Labor Standards**.

This bill is about lifting everyone up — workers, businesses, and the state of Maine.

It's a win for workers, because too many are still being shortchanged — whether through unpaid overtime, unsafe workplaces, or being misclassified without benefits. Education gives workers a better chance of being treated fairly.

It's a win for businesses, especially small ones, who often want to do right but don't have lawyers on call. We can't expect them to know every law by heart — but we *can* make it easier for them to comply. Helping businesses understand the rules ahead of time protects them from fines, lawsuits, and mistakes that could shut their doors.

And it's a win for the state of Maine. Because every business we help get it right the first time means one less investigation, one less dispute, one more stable, thriving employer in our communities.

I believe most Mainers — workers and employers alike — want to treat each other fairly. LD 1748 gives us the tools to make that vision real.

I urge you to vote "Ought to Pass" on this bill. Let's invest in education over punishment, in prevention over penalties, and in the dignity of both work and enterprise.

Thank you.