



Maine Conservation Voters

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Testimony of Maine Conservation Voters
“An Act Requiring Photographic Identification for Voting”
“An Act to Require a Voter to Show Photographic Identification”
Before the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and distinguished members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee.

My name is Nick Janzen, Director of Policy and Partnerships at Maine Conservation Voters, a state-wide non-profit organization with more than 13,000 members and supporters devoted to building an inclusive democracy and making conservation and climate action a political priority. We support measures to make Maine’s democratic institutions more accessible, efficient and secure, and that’s why we’re testifying against LDs 38 and 397.

These bills would impose a strict photographic ID requirement for voting, including for absentee voting under LD 397. They exclude widely used forms of identification, including a student ID, tribal ID, employee ID, Social Security card, or birth certificate. Given that there is virtually no voter fraud in Maine,¹ these requirements are not reasonable, and they would create real barriers for Mainers, especially seniors, low-income residents, rural voters, students, and people with disabilities.

Maine has one of the most secure and trusted election systems in the country. We should be making it easier—not harder—for eligible voters to participate. I urge you to reject these bills and preserve accessible voting for all Mainers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Janzen, Esq.
Director of Policy and Partnerships
Maine Conservation Voters

¹ See, e.g., <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/ballot-box-bullies>