



JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC  
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



MICHAEL A. DUGUAY  
COMMISSIONER

May 22, 2025

**Testimony Neither For Nor Against LD 1943,  
"Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study Private Equity Firms"**

Senator Curry, Representative Gere and Members of the Committee on Housing and Economic Development, my name is Maureen Terry and I am the legislative liaison for the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this resolve, which would establish a Commission to Study Private Equity Firms in Maine. I am here today to testify *neither for nor against* the proposal, but to offer several important considerations for the committee's discussion.

We appreciate and admire the resolve's goal of fostering a deeper understanding of the role private equity plays in Maine's economy – particularly in sectors like health care, energy, housing, and nursing homes, which are both vital to residents' well-being and subject to growing public scrutiny.

Should this study group be established, we strongly recommend that the Department of Economic and Community Development be given a seat at the table as well as a member from the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME). DECD and FAME both bring critical economic development perspectives and data to any discussion of investment trends and capital flows, and its involvement would ensure that recommendations are grounded in a full understanding of both risks and opportunities.

While transparency and accountability in investment practices are essential, we caution against outcomes that might inadvertently discourage legitimate investment in Maine. Private equity, while not without challenges, also provides capital that can preserve jobs, revitalize aging infrastructure, and support innovation in key sectors. Excessively restrictive or overly broad policy responses could have the unintended effect of signaling that Maine is inhospitable to investment more broadly, particularly in sectors that depend on outside capital.



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We encourage the Commission, should it be convened, to approach this issue with nuance, engaging a broad range of stakeholders and maintaining a balanced view of the economic impacts.