

132nd Legislature
***Senate
of Maine***
Senate District 31

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Testimony of Senator Donna Bailey introducing
LD 2061, An Act to Clarify the Prohibition on Paper Billing Statement Fees
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services
Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Good morning, Representative Mathieson, and fellow colleagues on the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services. As you know, I am Senator Donna Bailey, representing Senate District 31, which includes Buxton, Old Orchard Beach, and Saco. Today, I am pleased to introduce my bill LD 2061, “**An Act to Clarify the Prohibition on Paper Billing Statement Fees.**”

Last session, as many of you will recall, this committee worked on my bill, LD 580, to protect consumers from fees for paper statements. For that bill, my intent was that customers who prefer paper statements – rather than online ones – would not have to pay an additional fee for this basic banking service. In other words, customers could receive monthly statements in the mail free of charge.

However, since then, the credit unions shared a concern with me: Because the statute does not define “paper billing statement,” the prohibition on fees for monthly paper statements has been applied to *all* paper statement requests. These requests include replacement statements, custom date-range statements, and statements for legal or financial documentation. Some of these types of requests are labor intensive. They can be for multiple years of statements, leaving the financial institution to pay the costs of labor and materials.

LD 2061 would define “billing statement” as a monthly account statement. That way, customers could still get free paper monthly statements, and the financial institutions could charge for non-routine statement requests.

To be clear, this bill would not create new fees, and it would not weaken consumer protections. It would simply clarify the law, restoring clarity to my original intent.

Thanks for your attention, and I would be happy to answer any questions.



Donna Bailey

State Senator, Senate District 31
Buxton, Old Orchard Beach, and Saco