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Testimony by State Senator Matthea Daughtry on LD 1206
An Act Regarding the Terms of Office of the Director of the Maine State Museum Commission,
the State Librarian and the Director of the Maine Arts Commission
Presented to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
Tuesday, April 12, 2021

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and Distinguished Colleagues of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs:

My name is Mattie Daughtry and I am the State Senator for Senate District #24, which includes the towns of Brunswick, Freeport, Harpswell, North Yarmouth, and Pownal. I am pleased to present LD 1206, *An Act Regarding the Terms of Office of the Director of the Maine State Museum Commission, the State Librarian and the Director of the Maine Arts Commission*, a bill that I have sponsored on behalf of the Governor's office.

Under current law, the Director of the Maine State Museum Commission, the State Librarian and the Director of the Maine Arts Commission serve indefinitely, subject to removal for cause – a high standard. This bill would amend the terms of office for the three directors of Maine's Cultural Agencies to better align these statutes with the language found in enabling legislation of other state commissions. This bill would give the commissions that hire the director a greater ability to review the work of the director and ensure the director is responsive to the directions of the commissioners. These changes would only apply to Directors appointed to these positions after January 1, 2021.

A representative of the Governor's Office is here today to speak to this bill in more detail, but I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.