



**RETAIL
ASSOCIATION OF
MAINE**
Voice of Maine Retail

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March 29, 2021

Senator Stacy Brenner, Chair
Representative Ralph Tucker, Chair
Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee

RE: Testimony NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST LD 940, An Act to Establish Appliance Energy and Water Standards

Dear Senator Brenner, Representative Tucker and members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Curtis Picard and I am the President and CEO of the Retail Association of Maine. I am a resident of Topsham. We have more than 350 members statewide and represent retailers of all sizes. Maine's retailers employ more than 85,000 Mainers. I am here today to neither for nor against LD 940.

We have one small change to recommend to the committee. While we think the chances of a business violating this law as the California standards are the de facto national standards, LD 940 has some potentially harsh penalties for a business that violates this law. It reads:

*C. A person who violates paragraph A commits a civil violation for which a fine of not more than \$100 may be adjudged **for each unit of a product sold or offered for sale** in violation of paragraph A.*

This bill regulates products such as aerators, showerheads, and other fixtures. Many of these items sell for less than \$100 and are likely to be marketed and sold in higher volumes than commercial hot food holding cabinets, for example. We would recommend a more consistent penalty and perhaps simply deleting the reference to each unit of a product sold or offered for sale.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns with you.

Sincerely,

Curtis Picard, CAE
President and CEO