

**Donna R. Doore** 49 Pleasant Hill Road Augusta, ME 04330 Office: (207) 287-1430 Donna.Doore@legislature.maine.gov House of Representatives 2 state house station augusta, maine 04333-0002 (207) 287-1400 TTY: Maine Relay 771

April 21, 2021

## Testimony of Rep. Donna Doore introducing LD 61, An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Employer Recovery of Overcompensation Paid to an Employee Before the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Senator Hickman, Representative Sylvester and members of the Committee on Labor and Housing, my name is Representative Donna Doore and I represent part of Augusta. I am here today to introduce LD 61, An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Employer Recovery of Overcompensation Paid to an Employee

LD 610 was brought to my attention by a State Employee who was overpaid \$ 2,220 due to a payroll error. The employee did not think it was a mistake because he was due a pay step increase.

Approximately six months it was determined the extra pay was not due to a step increase in pay. Negotiations with payroll offered a settlement of half the overpayment. A total of \$1110.19 or 67 hours. The employees' options for payback were to have a lump sum taken out each pay period or to use my vacation time and comp time. This employee was fortunate to have enough vacation and comp time to repay for this error.

The bill I am presenting asks for a 5% recovery instead of 10% of overcompensation and it limits the employer for only be able to recover their overpayment for a period of 3 years upon discovery of overpayment. This bill does not limit or affect an employee's general civil remedies against an employer.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this bill to you this morning. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.