



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

45 Melville Street, Suite 1  
Augusta, ME 04330  
Phone: 207.623.1149  
[www.retailmaine.org](http://www.retailmaine.org)

April 21, 2021

Senator Craig Hickman, Chair  
Representative Michael Sylvester, Chair  
Members of the Labor and Housing Committee

**RE: Testimony in OPPOSITION to LD 938, An Act to Ensure Maine Workers' Right To Request a Schedule Change at Their Places of Employment**

Dear Senator Hickman, Representative Sylvester and members of the Labor and Housing 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 testifying in strong opposition to LD 938.

I have seen a lot of unique proposals over the years, but LD 938 ranks up there. There are so many workplaces, not just retail, where schedules are flexible and not set. This bill presumes all workers at employers with 10 or more employees have set work schedules. Under this proposal, an employee can request a schedule change, and the employer can deny it, but must provide the denial in writing within 7 days. If an alternative is available, that must be included in the written response. Failure to adhere to this would trigger a fine of at least \$5,000!

This is yet another bill that presumes the employer-employee relationship is contentious. Employers accommodate schedule changes all the time, and we do not see the need for this bill.

Please vote LD 938 unanimously Ought Not to Pass.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts.

Sincerely,

Curtis Picard, CAE  
President and CEO