

PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY
State of Maine Committee on Labor and Housing
Submitted via the Legislature's Testimony Submission portal

Date: April 23, 2021

To: Senator Hickman, Chair
Rep. Sylvester, Chair
Members of the Maine Committee on Labor and Housing

From: Mark Turek
Randolph, Maine USA

Re: LD 1402: "An Act To Remove a Requirement Regarding Payment of Union Fees"

In light of a conflict with my work schedule, I appreciate the opportunity to submit this written testimony in support of LD 1402 for your consideration.

Back in June of 2018, our Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) clearly ruled that forced labor union fees within our public sector workplaces is a violation of our First Amendment right to free speech. "This landmark case guarantees the First Amendment rights to free speech and free association for more than 5 million public school teachers, first responders and other government workers across the country." SOURCE: www.nrtw.org/janus/

It's time for our related Maine law to be updated to comply with that important SCOTUS ruling. I firmly believe that Forced Unionism is very anti-American to all workers in both the public and private sectors, but this change will only impact the public-sector workers in Maine.

The State of Maine has no right to violate our First Amendment rights, and I ask everyone on this committee to do the right thing by voting "Ought To Pass" for LD 1402.

Respectfully,

Mark Turek
Randolph, Maine USA