



**Alison Sucy, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Government Affairs,  
on Behalf of the Maine Tourism Association**

**In Opposition to**

***LD 949, An Act to Protect Workers from Employer Surveillance***

April 4, 2023

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing:

My name is Alison Sucy and I am the Chief Operating Officer and Director of Government Affairs for the Maine Tourism Association. The Maine Tourism Association is a non-profit association and the state's largest tourism organization with nearly 1500 members. For over 100 years, MTA has been promoting Maine and supporting members in every type of tourism business such as lodging, restaurants, campgrounds, outdoor recreation, retail, guides, tour operators, amusements, and historical and cultural attractions. I present this testimony in opposition to LD 949.

There are a number of ways in which surveillance is very important to a business but is not "strictly necessary to ensure employee health and safety or the security of employer data," as the bill would require. Monitoring for customer safety is excluded in this bill. Camera monitoring of employees who are, for example, maintaining and repairing equipment for sports, recreational activities, and amusements may be seen as one part of an important customer safety process for these operators, yet would be prohibited under this bill.

A business may monitor to protect itself from theft or fraud by its employees and this is also prohibited under the proposal. Cameras may be used to watch for theft of products and supplies in stockrooms or warehouses of retail businesses, hotels, and restaurants and bars (e.g. alcohol storage areas), as well as to monitor for theft in financial transactions, particularly with cash.

Tracking productivity of employees working from home/remotely may be key to employers allowing such arrangements. By prohibiting this, many employers will remove remote work as an option for employees if they can't track productivity in a timely and effective manner.

Businesses with drivers frequently have GPS or other monitoring devices on their vehicles to ensure that drivers are driving where they are supposed to and are being safe. Finally, we have concerns about limits on cybersecurity which, although allowed to a degree under this proposed language, may exclude the processes some businesses already have, forcing businesses to change to make costly changes to potentially less effective security measures.

This bill seems far too restrictive for many types of tourism businesses and limits their ability to monitor for customer safety, employee productivity, and theft. I respectfully ask that you vote Ought Not To Pass. Thank you for your time and consideration of our testimony.