

To: The Members of the State and Local Government Committee

Subj: LD 1039 An Act To Safeguard the People's Voice in a State of Emergency

My name is Craig Caffrey of Bowdoinham ME and I have submitted this testimony in support of LD 1039 An Act To Safeguard the People's Voice in a State of Emergency.

There are times when the Governor needs to declare a State of Emergency when immediate action is needed to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all Mainers.

Both the US and the State Constitutions start off with the words WE THE PEOPLE! Therefore, we have a government of the people, by the people for the people. Not I the governor!

Section 2. of our State Constitution clearly states, "All power is inherent in the people; all free governments are founded in their authority and instituted for their benefit; they have therefore an unalienable and indefeasible right to institute government, and to alter, reform, or totally change the same, when their safety and happiness require it."

By allowing the Governor to continue to declare a State of Emergency for 13 months in a row without input or guidance from the Legislators that We the People have appointed to Represent our best interests is unacceptable, unconstitutional and nothing short of tyrannical. Furthermore, allowing our legislators to vote on a proclamation or executive order made under the state of emergency remotely by electronic or other means seems reasonable, and I strongly encourage this committee vote "Ought to Pass" on LD 1039.

Thank you for your time,

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