Cathleen Nichols South Portland

Dear Members of the Committee on State and Local Government,

- 1. The Covid virus is no longer an imminent threat.
- 2. One person alone does not make a government.
- 3. Your constituents have suffered enough: job loss, isolation, depression, financial hardship, and the loss of countless liberties.
- 4. The legal framework for using emergency powers is not meant to be repeatedly used.

I love this state; the people who live and work here are exceptional. They should be given the freedom and allowed the dignity of making safe decisions for themselves, their customers, their congregations and their families. However this dignity and freedom is not possible as long as the Governor has unlimited rights for declaring an emergency with an underlying motive to receive federal funds. Please vote yes on all of these bills:

- LD 14 An Act To Require a Two-thirds Vote To Extend a State of Emergency
- LD 131 An Act To Amend the Governor's Emergency Powers
- LD 628 An Act To Protect Businesses and Civic and Religious Organizations from Actions Taken Pursuant to an Emergency Proclamation

 LD 729 An Act To Provide Transparency Regarding State Contracts during a State of
- LD 955 An Act To Narrowly Tailor Emergency Powers of the Governor and Other Public
- LD 980 An Act To Establish Balance in the Governor's Emergency Powers
- LD 1039 An Act To Safeguard the People's Voice in a State of Emergency
 LD 1142 An Act To Prohibit the Unequal Restriction of Essential Businesses during a State of Civil Emergency
- LD 1237 An Act To Allow the Governor To Declare a Limited State of Emergency for Federal Aid Purposes

Thank you for representing the people of Maine.