

Matthew Rhodes
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To the Members of the State and Local Government Committee Regarding LD 608 An Act Regarding the Governor's Emergency Powers

My name is Matthew Rhodes from Parsonfield ME. I am not a lobbyist or a member of any special interests group. I am an American citizen and a resident here in the Great State of Maine.

There are times when the Governor needs to declare a State of Emergency. That is understandable when immediate action is needed to insure the safety and well being of Mainers.

Here is the thing that many of you have forgotten. Both the US and the State Constitutions start off with the words WE THE PEOPLE!

Section 2. of our own State Constitution "Power inherent in people". "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."

It clearly states that "ALL POWER" is inherent in the people. Allowing the Governor to continue to declare a State of Emergency over and over without input and guidance from the Legislators that We the People have appointed to Represent our best interests is unacceptable, as well as unconstitutional. Further more, allowing our legislators to vote on a proclamation or executive order made under the state of emergency remotely by electronic or other means as established by the rules of each House of the Legislature. Is a good idea. I find this bill LD 608 reasonable and I am directing you to vote; "Ought to Pass"