Danny Whitney Bethel

To the Legislature,

I write to you today fortunate enough to be one of the few business owners our dictator has not yet destroyed. Let me begin there as in some of my conversations with the Speakers office and other members of the democratic party in our State government the use of the word Dictator has been shoved aside. A dictator is defined as "a ruler with total power" or a "person who behaves in an autocratic way". For those not familiar, an autocracy is a system of government ruled by one person with absolute power. Using these definitions the State of Maine has no doubt been in an autocracy or dictatorship for over a year now. Our Governor took it upon herself to disband and ignore the three branch system that has governed our country and in turn our State's for over two hundred years. In the past year she has single handedly forced people to wear masks, forced business owners to close, forced business owners to operate at half or even less capacity, shut down schools, put people out of work, and taken basic civil rights away from individuals. She did all of this through "Executive Orders" and without the consent of even the House or Senate nevermind the people it actually affects.

Dictator Mills singled out and destroyed businesses who stood up against her unconstitutional orders and has made it so many people and businesses alike are now scared to speak out. I don't know about you but I did not grow up in a country where people were scared to speak their mind. That is communism at its finest. Unfortunately this is what our governor has created in the past year. She has trampled our civil liberties in the name of her own power.

Once again, lucky enough to be one who still has a job and other responsibilities I have not had the time to sit down and read through every bill that will be presented today or over the coming weeks. However, I request that both parties vote to end the Dictatorship we are living under and restore power to the people not only for the current situation but for future ones as well. I also hope any votes you cast will be to undo all executive orders and let us, as American Citizens, be responsible for our own actions as we once were. By May 1, 2020 we knew enough about the virus that businesses should have been opened then. Nearly a year later we now know even more. With a survival rate of 99.99% (even using the CDC's misleading numbers) it is far past time the state be opened up and our basic civil liberties, such as what we wear, be restored.

My hope today is that faith can be restored in our system. We are not Russia, we are not China, we are a Government FOR and BY the people. To allow one person such power is irresponsible, dangerous, and goes against all of our founding principles that make us the greatest country in the world. Mainer's are resilient but we deserve better from the government. We deserve democracy.

Thanks for your time,

Danny