

To: The Members Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Subj: LD 1057 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Provide for the Popular Election of the Secretary of State

My name is Craig Caffrey of Bowdoinham ME and I have submitted this testimony in support of LD 1057 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Provide for the Popular Election of the Secretary of State.

We live in a Constitutional Republic, and as such every American is afforded a voice. One of the many ways for our voices to be heard is through our voting process. By amending our state Constitution to allow a popular vote for a Secretary of State would support this ideal.

The Secretary of State is the chief clerk of the state and is often the primary custodian of important state records, voting processes and other important clerical duties. Therefore, they should be directly representing the people. However, as we have seen with the current and previous Secretary of State, this is not the case. Both have put their political party, party goals and ideology before their sworn duties of their office. By amending our Constitution to a popular vote, this should mitigate the political charade that has befallen the Secretary of State office.

I strongly encourage this committee vote "Ought to Pass" on LD 1057 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Provide for the Popular Election of the Secretary of State.

Thank you for your time,

Craig Caffrey

Bowdoinham

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