

Dear Senator Nangle, Representative Stover, and Honorable Members of the Committee on State and Local Government, thank you for your time. My name is Sam Drummey, I'm a high schooler in Biddeford and volunteer for Maine Youth Action, and I'm asking you to support LD 2121, An Act to Address Chronic Understaffing of State Government Positions.

For the last few years, I've looked forward to working in the public sector. I don't know exactly what I want to do yet, but I know that working for a state or local government is one of the best ways I can make the world better. I admire the work my government has done for the environment, and I want to contribute to similar achievements when I'm older.

However, one thing I consistently hear is that although working for the government can be deeply important and fulfilling, it doesn't necessarily lead to financial comfort. When I enter the workforce, I want to quickly pay off any student debts I may get, help my parents after they retire, and create a sustainable lifestyle for myself. I don't know if I could do those things if I work in the public sector, based on the pay many state government jobs currently offer. This is especially true considering the way the cost of living is increasing.

LD 2121 would help with the concerns I and some of my peers have. I'd see government work as not only something I wanted to do, but also something I really could do if the state's jobs gave wages suited to today's realities. Please support this bill, so that my generation can find decent paying jobs that match our passions, and our government can find dedicated workers that match its needs.

Thank you for your time,
Sam Drummey

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Biddeford
LD 2121

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