



Dear State and Local Government Committee Chair and Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for the bills in front of you today that put the power back in the hands of the people. Please vote to allow the election of our state constitutional officers—Secretary of State, Treasurer, and Attorney General—to be by the people, rather than allowing the legislature to appoint them. I believe this issue strikes at the heart of our democratic values: accountability, checks and balances and the preservation of individual liberty.

Direct elections ensure that these critical offices start to be answerable to the citizens, not to a group of political insiders. When the people vote, they exercise their God-given right to shape their government, holding these officers to a standard of transparency and responsibility. Handing the power of appointment to the legislature creates a system where loyalty to party trumps the public good—it is a recipe for cronyism and corruption that I strongly oppose.

History shows that concentrated power erodes trust. Our state's founders wisely designed a system where these roles, each with distinct duties—overseeing elections, managing finances, and upholding justice—stay independent and tied to the electorate. Legislative appointments blurs those lines, turning officers into mere extensions of the majority party rather than servants of all citizens.

From a practical standpoint, elections foster competition and debate, forcing candidates to articulate their principles and plans. This process strengthens our republic. Appointment, by contrast, could shield mediocrity behind closed doors, weakening the checks and balances that are critical to our state's success.

I urge you to give the people a voice by allowing them to select our Secretary of State, Treasurer, and Attorney General. You will forever be credited as the Legislature that unselfishly gave up some power and handed it over to the people.

Sincerely,

Robert Wessels

Robert Wessels
Maine Gubernatorial Candidate
VoteRobertWessels.com - WesselsForGovernor@Gmail.com