

John Andrews
Maine Legislature

Senator Luchini, Representative Caiazzo and esteemed members of the Veteran's and Legal Affairs Committee,

Good morning. My name is John Andrews and I represent District 73 in western Maine. I am here today to speak on LD 1061, "An Act To Protect Minor Political Parties That Seek Official Party Status." This bill has my full support and is important for several reasons.

It helps to right the wrong of certain smaller party members, namely the Libertarian Party, from being purged from their party of choice. The Secretary of State's Office purging these members was a travesty. Now they have to spend their time and their hard-earned money to regain party status to allow new and former party members to freely identify and associate as they had in the past.

Secondly this bill makes it easier for a more diverse political ecosystem to exist. Unenrolled are one of the largest voting groups in Maine. This is largely because many people are not happy with the two major parties and their constant food fights with each other. There is a better way and that way includes protecting minority parties so that they may participate actively and fully in the political process.

I would ask you to please vote 'Ought to Pass' on Representative Justin Fecteau's LD 1061 to help, empower and protect minority parties in Maine.

Thank you for your time and commitment to public service.

Respectfully,

John Andrews
State Representative
District 73