



Maine Municipal  
Association

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Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

Neither For Nor Against  
LD 1126, *An Act To Update the Voter Registration Process*

April 5, 2021

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Senator Luchini, Representative Caiazzo and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is Kate Dufour and I am providing testimony neither for nor against LD 1126 on behalf of MMA's Legislative Policy Committee.

Municipal officials do not object to modernizing the state's voter registration process. As illustrated over the past year, providing online access to resources and services allows Maine residents to comply with state and local regulations as their schedules permit. The ability to direct residents to online services also reduces the pressures placed on front-line municipal employees. In many respects, automation leads to efficiencies and improved customer service.

Our only cause for pause is with access to a voter's signature. As the members of this Committee know, the ability to match a voter's signature on a returned absentee ballot with the one on file with the registrar of voters is a vital step in verifying the ballot's authenticity. For this reason, municipal officials ask that the implemented system includes the safeguards necessary to ensure that voter signatures are readily available to municipal election officials.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the municipal perspective on LD 1126.