



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

April 7, 2021

Honorable Louis Luchini, Chair
Honorable Chris Caiazzo, Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veteran's Affairs
Room 437 State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: L.D. 253, *An Act To Strengthen Maine's Election Laws by Requiring Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting*
L.D. 557, *An Act To Require Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting*
L.D. 941, *An Act To Protect the Privacy of Absentee Voters*
L.D. 1083, *An Act To Create a Voter Identification System*
L.D. 1099, *An Act Regarding Election Reform*

Dear Senator Luchini and Representative Caiazzo:

I am writing to convey thoughts about the above referenced bills, L.D. 253, L.D. 557, L.D. 941, L.D. 1083, and L.D. 1099 that are all dealing with new voter identification requirements, new ballot requirements and voter eligibility. The Governor's Office strongly opposes all of these bills as they are solutions looking for problems.

These bills will only keep otherwise eligible voters from voting or having their ballot rejected on a technicality and will do nothing to ensure our elections in Maine remain well run and secure with high citizen participation. Additionally, the Governor's Office opposes any efforts to prohibit an incarcerated person from voting as encouraging civic engagement ought to be a goal of rehabilitation that we encourage.

For these reasons the Governor's Office urges an *Ought Not to Pass* report on these bills.

Sincerely,

Tim Feeley
Deputy Legal Counsel
Office of Governor Janet T. Mills



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