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Testimony in Support of Voter ID LDs 253, 557, 1083

Dear Members of the Committee of Veterans and Legal Affairs,

Please support voter identification laws. Requiring proof of self and residency for voting demonstrates the utmost respect for our civil rights. Our vote is the electrical impulse of our country, the vital privilege of every American who believes in government representation. Supporting voter identification will give greater credibility to our government, an attribute that is needed now more than ever before.

Hundreds of out-of-state students were allowed to vote in Maine elections with their school IDs. On the other hand, Maine continues to lose voters to other states through retirement, better job opportunities, and better business environments; I guarantee that most of those people abide by the law and vote legally in their new state of residence.

You likely want proof of these voter fraud instances. Well I say I want proof to ensure there is no voter fraud. Identification is not a burden. If it were a burden we'd have complete havoc in our world. Imagine the hardship of providing an ID to purchase alcohol, apply for food stamps, open a bank account, or buy a cell phone.

Please conduct your own polls or do your research. Overwhelmingly the majority supports voter identification, "Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Republicans support voter ID requirements, as do 60% of Democrats and 77% of voters not affiliated with either major party." according to a March survey by Rasmussen Report.

Republican legislators have proposed these bills for your consideration. Please take our civic responsibility seriously and guarantee that those who are voting have the right to do so. Out of respect for your constituents you should ensure that their votes are never undermined by people who falsify their identities.

Thank you for considering my testimony.