



Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

In Opposition To

LD 349 - An Act to Repeal the Laws That Allow Same-day Voter Registration

February 10, 2025

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is Rebecca Lambert, and I am providing testimony in opposition to LD 349 on behalf of the Maine Municipal Association's (MMA) elected 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). For reference, the LPC guides MMA's advocacy efforts and establishes positions on bills of municipal interest.

Our LPC participated in an email poll as well as a Zoom meeting if they were able to discuss the merits of the proposal bill. Their position was determined by a majority vote of all LPC members who responded to the poll or were present at the meeting. MMA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit member service organization and aims to help provide policy solutions that work for all residents in Maine.

Arguably, Election Day is one of the most exciting and stressful times for a municipal clerk. There are strict processes, deadlines, and guidance on the conduct of elections and annual training that occur to help the process flow smoothly. Municipal officials believe that all voters should have every chance to vote in an election and have not seen any real challenges associated with same day voter registration.

At their meeting, one member shared their experience about an individual who attempted to cast a vote twice. This member was satisfied with how swiftly the State responded and how effective the current process is and fully supports opposing this bill. Another member shared that in their community with 16,000 voters passing through their polls, there have been no issues with voter registration.

For those reasons we are opposed to LD 349. Thank you for your time and for considering the municipal perspective on this issue.

