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I strongly support this legislation providing postage paid return envelopes for absentee voting. Having worked with many homebound older adults, I know firsthand how difficult it is for them to have stamps on hand, either because of financial constraints or the inability to get out to purchase them. For some, just getting to their mailbox is a challenge. When provided with notecards and stamps, many of these seniors I worked with were thrilled to receive stamps since getting them is always a challenge.

In addition, many people have assumed incorrectly that postage on return ballots was prepaid and didn't even think of putting stamp on the envelope. Filling the ballot out and signing the envelope correctly is challenging enough that providing postage would simplify voting for many Maine citizens. This would also be helpful for college students who are voting out of state.