

## Maine Town & City Clerks' Association

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Date: April 23, 2025

To: Senator Craig Hickman, Senate Chair

Representative Laura Supica, House Chair

And members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee

From: Patti Dubois, Chairperson, Legislative Policy Committee

Maine Town and City Clerks' Association

Ashley Rand, Vice-Chair, Legislative Policy Committee

Maine Town and City Clerks' Association

Re: LD 1702 – An Act to Election Polling Place Candidate Restrictions

Position: SUPPORT

The Maine Town & City Clerks' Association is in support of LD 1702 and we thank you for the opportunity to outline our points for your committee.

Members felt that including write-ins in the 250 feet of a voting place prohibiting the influence of voters treats every candidate equally whether their name is listed on the ballot or they are a write-in seeking votes. This helps with candidate confusion and allows for candidate influence rules to be followed by all candidates.

Members also felt that not allowing signatures to be collected at the polls for a future election also clears up confusion for voters. Many voters also get confused and at times frustrated on why someone is campaigning and collecting signatures for the November ballot at a June Election. Prohibiting collecting signatures for a future election and collecting Clean Elections Qualifying Contributions at the polls removes negative public perception of collecting funds on Election Day.

This bill allows for candidate campaigning on Election Day for a current ballot and a future election ballot to be treated equally, removing confusion for voters and candidates running for any Election.

The Maine Town & City Clerks' Association appreciates the opportunity to share its testimony with the Committee. Should any questions arise, please feel free to contact me at (207)680-4210 or by email: <a href="mailto:pdubois@waterville-me.gov">pdubois@waterville-me.gov</a>.