

Stacey Carlson
Cumberland
LD 1149

Dear Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs,

I am testifying in opposition of LD 1149. I oppose this bill because these restrictions can and will harm every type of voter, with senior and rural voters experiencing the worst of the disenfranchisement. Additionally this would be costly, leaving taxpayers on the hook to pay for a new system.

Additionally, there is absolutely no evidence to suggest that additional voting hurdles will decrease voter fraud, which accounts for 0.001% nationwide in US elections. Maine currently has adequate safeguards in place to prevent fraud, cyber attacks, and other kinds of foul play that would attempt to subvert our elections.

This proposal seems to be an imported out-of-state agenda that just doesn't fit Maine. There are thousands of dollars being raised from out-of-state donors in order to push this on Maine voters. We are NOT a puppet state. This law has no place in Maine. Maine has strong voting rights. We are a leader in the nation. Our small, rural, working-class state has one of the highest voter turnout rates in the country. That's something to be proud of. We rank this high because of our secure elections, same-day voter registration, no-excuse absentee ballots, and no photo ID laws required to vote.. I urge the committee to oppose this bill. Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to testify.