

Meaghan Harned
Portland
LD 1149

RE: LD 1149 — An Act to Require an Individual to Present Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting

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

My name is Meaghan Harned, and I live in Portland, ME. I am testifying in opposition to LD 1149. I oppose this bill because it is a blatant attempt to make absentee voting less accessible in all directions, and thus winnow down the number of people able to vote. Using the Trumped-up fear of voter fraud as a reason to take away the ability to request an absentee ballot by phone, for example, is ridiculous. Should this bill pass, it is going to wind up disenfranchising all kinds of voters, but particularly the elderly who rely on an authorized third party to deliver their ballots. Let's not make the elderly jump through hoops to turn in their ballot (especially at the same time the federal government is threatening to strip away their social security benefits). I strongly urge the committee to oppose this bill. Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to testify.