

Kathryn Hartford  
Boothbay Harbor  
LD 1149

When I became disabled a few years ago, I stopped voting at most elections, stopped attending in-person meetings and events, stopped signing petitions, and stopped campaigning for my favorite candidates. For an activist, this was difficult and disheartening. An outreach volunteer came to our senior housing complex and encouraged the residents to use absentee ballots, and since then I've been back in the game again. When I learned that my town office would mail me the absentee ballots for every election, automatically, I signed up. I've also become active again by attending Zoom meetings and joining activist groups virtually. Like many of my friends in our 80s, I depend on absentee ballots; we would consider it a form of voter suppression if this option was discontinued. I live in Lincoln County, the "oldest" county in the "oldest" State in the country, and I know I speak for many of my compatriots.