

Marna Miller  
Falmouth  
LD 1149

To Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Date: May 2, 2025

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,

I am writing to testify in opposition to LD 1149. I believe this initiative will suppress the vote by making it harder for Mainers to use absentee ballots to cast their votes.

Members of my family frequently cast their vote by absent ballot. My husband is a healthcare provider who works very long hours, always starting work before polls open and sometimes finishing after polls close. He does not control his schedule and cannot simply leave work in order to vote. So he MUST use an absentee ballot if he wants to guarantee that he'll be able to vote in any particular election. Likewise, my two adult children must use absentee ballots to vote because are usually outside the state for work/school at election time. Finally, my in-laws are in their mid-80s; one day soon they will be unable to travel to the polls. So anything that makes it harder to request or submit an absentee ballot in Maine has the potential to disenfranchise my entire family.

Absentee balloting is very popular in Maine, and it works. I see no reason to alter the law in ways that will restrict this popular, effective method of voting. I encourage the Committee to oppose LD 1149.

Thank you for considering my testimony.