

Madolyn Roy
South Portland
LD 1446

To: The Honorable craig Hickman
The Honorable Laura Supica, Co Chairs
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and legal Affairs
5/2/2025

RE: LD 1446 – Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Lower the Voting Age of 16 Years of Age

Dear Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and legal Affairs,

My name is Madolyn Roy, and I am a Senior at South Portland High School. I am testifying in support of LD 1446. I support this bill because I am going to be moving to college around the same time of my 18th birthday. The birthday that marks my right to vote will be the birthday that is shrouded by preparing for college. It will be the birthday and I am saying goodbye to my family and friends, childhood home and town. It's the birthday that marks the beginning of someone's service in the army, or starting trade school, or college. These big changes happening in someone's life can hinder their participation in their new right to vote. Changing the suffrage age to 16 means creating a population that can be better educated about their rights. Having the starting age at 16 means starting young voters off in a safer space giving them a better chance at being better voters. If I had the right to vote at 16 I would have been more inclined to learn about my role in our democracy. I urge the committee to support this bill. Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to testify.