



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

February 6, 2023

Hon. Craig Hickman, Chair
Hon. Laura Supica, Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs
State House, Room 437
Augusta, Maine 04330

Re: LD 34, *An Act to Require a Person to Show Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting*

Dear Senator Hickman and Representative Supica:

I am writing to you to express my opposition to LD 34, *An Act to Require a Person to Show Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting*.

As Mainers we have long held that the freedom to vote is a fundamental right. Maine voters participate in elections in numbers that consistently lead the country. Our elections are well-run, and our voting systems have great integrity. This bill, if enacted would disproportionately impact our senior citizens, working people, and those who lack access to reliable transportation. If this bill passed, people in the more rural areas of our state would have to drive long distances to access government services where identification documents can be obtained. Further, elections officials in every municipality will have the increased burden of checking identification for each voter, all of whom have already established their identity when registering to vote. At a time when democracy seems in peril, Maine should be engaging its people in the civic and electoral process, not looking for ways to disenfranchise them from one of their most fundamental rights.

For these reasons I urge you to vote LD 34 Ought Not to Pass. Please feel free to communicate any questions, concerns, or comments to my office.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



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