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MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

January 16, 2026

The Honorable Shenna Bellows  
Secretary of State  
28 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Bellows,

Thank you for the appearance of Deputy Secretary Cathie Curtis and Director Chris Ireland at the Government Oversight Committee meeting on December 17, 2025.

The following are the questions for which they kindly agreed to return to the Committee with additional answers. These representatives are invited to appear before the Committee on February 13, 2026, in Cross Building room 220, at 9:30am.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of Craig V. Hickman in black ink.

Craig V. Hickman  
Senate Chair

Handwritten signature of Anne-Mare Mastraccio in black ink.

Anne-Mare Mastraccio  
House Chair

Cc: Government Oversight Committee Members  
Peter Schleck, Director, Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability

Questions GOC Members asked which Secretary of State representatives stated they would bring back the answer to the committee.

1. What is the pass rate for immigrants who bring interpreters?
2. Is there any statistical difference in the evidence of cheating between citizens and non-citizens who are trying to receive a permit or license?
3. How many interpreters, brought in by the applicant seeking a permit, fill out the 81 Form, the form with their credentials, are the interpreters paid by the applicant for their services, and how often do individual interpreters provide their services?
4. What is the difference between fraud and cheating?
5. What is the permit test pass rate for those who take driver's education?
6. Does the Department accept a summons to a court date, even a summons for a removal process, as a valid documentation for legal presence in issuing driving permits in the State of Maine?
7. Have REAL ID's been issued based solely on someone having an EAC?
8. What would constitute "substantial evidence" of cheating on an exam?
9. Does Maine use all the standards that the federal government requires, or only the EAC standard?
10. Are you aware of any evidence of differences in accident rates based on immigration status?
11. If an interpreter is signing the MV81 form, stating that they're an interpreter, with integrity, and if they were cheating, wouldn't that be a form of fraud?
12. Do you have a record of the investigation of interpreter cheating that was completed under the previous Secretary of State that the Committee could see to determine if the Committee believes it was thorough enough for the purposes of this conversation?
13. Do you collect any data on the number of permitted drivers who have an accident while on permitted status?
14. Has anyone in the State of Maine, as an asylum seeker, who only had a petition for asylum and a work permit, would they be allowed to obtain a REAL ID?
15. If an individual has an H-1B visa, and applied for a REAL ID, would that person be authorized for a REAL ID under current processes?