



Maine Town & City Clerks' Association

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Date: December 31, 2021

To: Senator Louis J. Luchini, Senate Chair
Representative Chris Caiazzo, House Chair
And members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee

From: Patti Dubois, Chairperson, Legislative Policy Committee
Maine Town and City Clerks' Association

Re: LD 1779 – An Act to Protect Election Integrity by Regulating Possession of Ballots
and Voting Machines and Devices

Position: Support

The Maine Town & City Clerks' Association is in support of LD 1779 and we thank you for the opportunity to outline our points for your Committee.

Although it may seem obvious that municipal clerks must maintain custody of ballots and voting machines, we feel that it is prudent to codify this in statute to ensure that all election officials can easily reference these restrictions. Municipal clerks who are new to administering elections may be unaware that these materials must be secured throughout the year, and not just during an election season or cycle. In addition, well-meaning clerks may want to be cooperative when asked by schools, unions, community groups or others to use these materials for instruction, polls or votes that they administer or for other reasons.

Municipal clerks are the election professionals. We understand and support the notion that election security and integrity is paramount in these uncertain times; therefore, we support this legislation.

The Maine Town & City Clerks' Association appreciates the opportunity to share its testimony with the Committee. Should any questions arise, please feel free to contact me at 680-4210 or by email: pdubois@waterville-me.gov.