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Testimony of Senator Roger Katz Presenting
LD 1567 "*An Act to Amend the Archives and Records Management Law*"
Before the Committee on State and Local Government
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Good Morning Senator Davis, Representative Martin and esteemed members on the Committee of State and Local Government. I am Roger Katz, representing Senate District 15 in Kennebec County. Today I present to you LD 1567, *An Act to Amend the Archives and Records Management Law* on behalf of the Secretary of State. The intent of this bill is to update our archives law and records retention policies to reflect changing technology and to revisit the way archival and record retention decisions are made.

My own interest in the subject stems from the Government Oversight Committee review of record retention issues at the Center for Disease Control several years ago. As a committee, we concluded that the entire subject of records retention in the various departments of government needed be revisited along with another look at archival policies. To that end, we have had regular updates from Secretary of State Dunlap, and his office has developed this legislation to help us move forward. I would like to thank him as well as State Archivist Cheever for their attention to these issues and the passion they bring to this subject.

With the permission of the Committee, I will leave an explanation of the details of the bill to speakers who follow me.

There is nothing particularly sexy about the subject of records retention or the archives, but I think we all recognize the importance of keeping a public record of how we operate; both for our own use and for future generations. I thank you.