

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

June 23, 2011

The 125th Legislature of the State of Maine

State House

Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 125th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 547, "Resolve, Directing the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention To Conduct a Review of Wood Smoke Laws."

As members of the Legislature know, unfunded Resolves expend the resources of State Government on studies when the efforts of agencies would be better utilized undertaking their core missions and finding ways to do things better, delivering higher-quality services with a lower-cost to taxpayers. This is especially true as my Administration moves its efforts away from the Legislative session and towards finding new ways to organize and operate the State.

Further, I am concerned this Resolve will have a chilling effect on Maine citizens and businesses. For hundreds of years, people have utilized the wood found in Maine's great forests as an all-natural, renewable heating substance. They have consistently found new

and better ways to both steward the forests sustainably and increase the efficiency and ease-of-use of wood as a fuel. Passage of this Resolve would signal that our proud history may be waning. That is something I cannot condone.

For these reasons, I return LD 547 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage

Governor