



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

8 July 2013

The 126th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 126th 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 1198, "An Act To Protect Earned Pay."

This is yet another bill seeking to undo changes made in the 125th Legislature. I am not sure how well the Maine people are served by forcing partisan bills through the process that are sure to receive a veto on my desk. The changes sought in this bill were supposedly brought forward to make the process "more fair." The simple fact is these changes will increase the costs to our unemployment trust fund and could ultimately hurt hardworking Maine families.

Our unemployment trust fund has been managed prudently and we have kept it in strong fiscal shape, unlike many other states which ran up significant deficits. The fact is that benefit programs have costs and the money can run out. It may be hard to tell people "no" and ensure we remain fiscally responsible, but it is the right thing to do.

For these reasons, I return LD 1198 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,


Paul R. LePage
Governor



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