



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

Paul R. LePage

GOVERNOR

2 July 2018

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine  
State House  
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th 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 1696, "An Act to Provide Funding for the Maine Bicentennial Commission."

Maine's bicentennial is an important milestone, and one that should be celebrated. It deserves to be properly funded. Unfortunately, when we do not prioritize—and instead try to please everyone—we are left with bills that are an embarrassment.

The Legislature cannot please everyone. This legislation should have demonstrated a commitment to honoring Maine's 200 years of statehood with a proper investment that serves as a jumping-off point for those seeking to raise private funds in support of this milestone. Instead, the Legislature's desire to be all things to all people rendered its commitment to this historic moment meaningless.

For this reason, I return LD 1696 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor



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