

# EASY TO READ VOTER GUIDE

## **VOTER HOTLINE:**

## Questions about voting or the election?

We can help! Text, call, or email us:



(207) 558-3333



Vote@lwvme.org

lwvme.org info@lwvme.org

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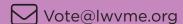
## Why vote?

**Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024.** Most polls will open at 7:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM.

## **VOTER HOTLINE:**

Questions about voting or the election? We can help! Text, call, or email us:





#### Why vote?

You can help make important changes in the way your town, state, and country are run.

### Is my vote private?

Yes, your vote is private. No one will know how you vote unless you tell them.

#### Who can vote?

You can vote in Maine if you are:

- A citizen of the United States
- · A resident of the State of Maine
- Age 18 or older

You must first register to vote. Read about how to register on the next page.

## What will I be voting for?

On Tuesday, November 5, Maine voters will choose:



President of the United States



One U.S. Senator to represent Maine



U.S. Representatives in Congressional Districts 1 and 2 to represent Maine



Maine State Senators and Maine House of Representatives



Yes or No on statewide ballot questions



County, district, and municipal candidates and initiatives

## **Registering to Vote**

#### How do I register to vote?

You can register to vote in Maine if you are:

- An 18-year old United States citizen residing in the town where you will vote.
- A 17-year old citizen who will turn 18 on or before Election Day.
- If you are 16, you can still fill out your voter registration card, and you will be eligible to vote when you turn 18.
- People convicted of a crime or in jail can still vote. If you are in jail, you register to vote in the town where you lived before going to jail and vote by absentee ballot (see absentee voting information on PAGE 10).
- People experiencing homelessness can still vote. If you are experiencing homelessness, you register to vote using the location where you sleep. This location could be a shelter, a friend's place, or outside and is considered your residence.

# Whether you register in-person or by mail, you will need to provide proof of identity and proof of residence:

- Many kinds of photo ID will work, including student and tribal ID, state IDs, and U.S. passports.
- A piece of mail can show your address.
- If you have no address, you can still register in person in the town where you stay.
- If you are in a jail, your voting address is in the town you lived in before you went to jail.

Any day is a good day to register to vote in Maine! You can register to vote for the November 5 election one of these ways:



Online: You will need to submit your registration by October 15 so that your Town Clerk has time to process the application. Register to vote online:

https://registertovote.sos.maine.gov/



By mail: You will need to submit your registration by October 15 so that your Town Clerk has time to process the application.



Third-Party: You will need to submit your registration at a voter registration drive by October 15 so that your Town Clerk has time to process the application.



BMV: You can register to vote and/ or update your voter registration at your local Bureau of Motor Vehicles office. You will need to submit your registration by October 29 so that your Town Clerk has time to process the application.



Register to vote in-person at your city or town hall anytime, up to and including Election Day, November 5, 2024.



Register to vote at your voting place on Election Day, November 5, 2024.

## **Before Voting**

#### Where do I go to vote?

Some towns have multiple polling places. To find out where you vote, call your Town Clerk's office or visit the election page on your Town or City's website. You can also look up this information at this link: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/portal/government/edemocracy/voter-lookup.php">www.maine.gov/portal/government/edemocracy/voter-lookup.php</a>

QUICK LINK: https://bit.ly/MaineLookup



Use your phone to scan the QR code to find your polling place.





#### What time do I vote?

- Polling places open in the morning; opening time varies by town.
- All polling places close at 8:00 PM.
- If you are in line to vote at 8:00 PM, you will not be turned away and may vote.

#### Can I see the ballot before the election?

Yes, your town or city will have a sample ballot. Check their website.

## What if my name is not on the list at my voting place?

- The people working at the voting place will help you.
- You may need to register to vote, and you can register at the polling place on Election Day. You must bring identification and something that shows a current address. A driver's license or state ID with the current address meets both criteria. Otherwise, bring a checkbook or bill

- addressed to you at your current address, along with a social security card, birth certificate, or hunting/fishing license.
- If your problem is not solved, you can ask to vote a "challenged ballot." Your vote will count on Election Day, and in the meantime, your Town Clerk will help to resolve the issue.

#### Do I need an ID (identification card)?

No. Registered Maine voters do not need to show ID to vote. However, you should bring your ID and proof of your address (example is a driver's license and electric bill) if:

- You are a first-time voter.
- · You have moved.
- You need to register to vote on Election Day.

Don't worry — no eligible voter can be turned away.

## At the Polling Place

## What will I do at the voting place?

- Look for signs or markings to tell you where you should go. Most polling locations will have a separate entrance and exit.
- Some polling places will sort people by last name. Go to the election clerk, and give your name and address. If you are registered to vote, your name will be on the list.
- The election clerk will hand you paper ballots you will use to mark your votes.
- You will go into a private voting booth and mark your ballots.
- When you are done, you will put the ballot into the ballot box or a machine.

#### What if I need help at the voting place?

Ask an election clerk for help if you have any questions. Election clerks can help you fill out a ballot and give you a new one if you need it.

#### How do I fill out the ballot?

- 1. Each ballot will explain how to fill in your choices for each section.
- 2. You will use Ranked Choice Voting for some candidate elections. You can rank as many candidates as you wish or rank only one.
- 3. You do not have to vote on every ballot. Only the parts you vote on will count.
- 4. Check your ballot before turning it in.
- 5. If you have made a mistake, you can ask for a new ballot.

## You can get help from the following:

- A friend or a relative. Your helper does not have to be a voter. Your helper does not have to be old enough to vote.
- · An election worker.
- Your employer or union official cannot help you vote.

#### YOUR VOTING RIGHTS

Your Ballot, Your Vote: Don't panic if you registered to vote but your name is not on the list. Get help from a poll worker to make sure your vote is counted. Remember, Maine has same day registration. You can still register on Election Day.

**Challenged ballots:** You must be allowed to vote a challenged ballot even if you don't have ID or proof of where you live. No one who is eligible to vote should be turned away.

**I.D.? Not required:** Registered voters are not required to show ID in order to vote in Maine. However, you do need to provide proof of identity in order to register to vote.

Made a mistake on your ballot? You have the right to ask for a new ballot.

Feeling lost? Ask for help: Poll workers are there to help you! They'll show you how to mark your ballot and give you a challenged ballot if you need one. If you're at the wrong polling place, they should tell you how to get to the right one.

**Stay in line:** If you're in line even when polls close at 8:00 PM, stay in line! You have the right to cast your ballot.

## At the Polling Place



**ABOVE:** This is an ExpressVote system. These are available at any voting place. For more information on the ExpressVote system visit: www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/accessiblevoting.html

QUICK LINK: https://bit.ly/AccessibleVotingMaine

#### What is ExpressVote?

ExpressVote is for people who may have difficulty reading a ballot. It is a device that can be used to help you read or hear your ballot and fill it out. The election clerk can set it up for you.

#### How does ExpressVote work?

ExpressVote has a video display screen and built-in ballot printer. The ballot can be seen in large print. The ballot can be read to you through headphones that are provided.

# How do I make my selections with ExpressVote? You can make your selections by:

- 1. Touching the screen.
- 2. Using a keypad with differentshaped, colored buttons with braille labels.
- 3. Using a switch with a green Yes or a red No.
- 4. When you are done, the device prints a ballot marked with your choices.
- 5. You put your ballot into the ballot box or counting machine.

## **Ranked Choice Voting**

## What is Ranked Choice Voting?

Ranked Choice Voting lets voters rank the candidates in order of preference. You do not have to rank all the candidates. You may choose to only rank one candidate.

## When will I use Ranked Choice Voting?

For the November 5 election, all Maine voters will use Ranked Choice Voting in the U.S. Presidential race, U.S. Senate race, and U.S. House race. The names of write-in candidates will not appear on your ballot, but if you know you want to vote for them, there will be space where you can write the candidate's name. Then, you can rank the candidates in the order of your preference.

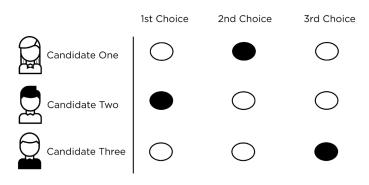
Additionally, Portland and Westbrook voters will use Ranked Choice Voting for local office races, such as mayoral, city council, and school board races.

#### How does Ranked Choice Voting work?

- Voters rank candidates in the order of their preference: first choice, second choice, third choice, and so on.
- When all the ballots are counted, if one candidate gets more than 50% of the first choice votes, they win.
- If no candidate receives more than 50% of first choice votes, the candidate with fewest votes is considered defeated.
- Voters who ranked the defeated candidate as their first choice have their votes counted for their second choice.
- This is repeated until a candidate has received more than 50% of the vote.

#### Ranked candidates in order of preference

You don't have to rank all the candidates if you don't want to.



Rank only one candidate per row and one candidate per column.

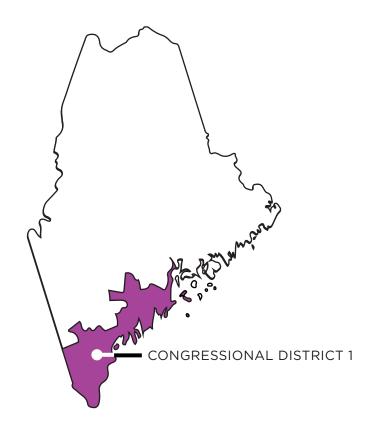
#### Why should I rank my vote?

- If your first choice is defeated, your ballot will still count for your next highest choice.
- You can't hurt your favorite candidate by also ranking the other candidates. Those choices only count if your first choice is defeated.
- You can't help your favorite candidate by ranking only one candidate. Your first choice will always count if your favorite candidate has not been defeated.

## How do I avoid mistakes on my ballot?

- Mark only one oval per row.
- Mark only one oval per column.
- Rank as many candidates as you like.
- You do not need to rank any candidate that you do not support.
- If you make a mistake, ask the clerk for a new ballot.
- Ask for help. You will not be the only one with questions.

## Sample Ballot | CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1



This Maine Ballot has:

- Five Presidential Candidates
- Four Candidates for U.S. Senate
- Three Candidates for U.S. House of Representatives District 1

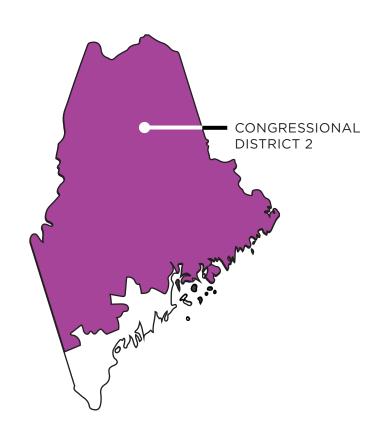
You also have the option to write-in a candidate name for each race.



Visit <u>www.Vote411.org</u> for more information about local races, such as candidates for Maine State House, Maine State Senate, City Council, School Board, and more.

#### State of Maine Sample Ballot General Election, November 5, 2024 **Instructions to Voters** 1st Choice 3rd Choice 3rd Choice 5th Choice 6th Choice 2nd Choice 2nd Choice 5th Choice 2nd Choic 3rd Choic 4th Choic 4th Choic 1st Choic President Vice President Rep. to Congress District 1 U.S. Senator To vote, fill in the oval like this: To rank your candidate choices, fill in the oval: Harris, Kamala D. Walz, Tim Democratic 0 0 0 0 0 0 Alcorn, Ethan Weld unenrolled/Independent Saco 0 0 0 · In the 1st column for your 0 0 0 0 0 Costello, David Allen Democratic Brunswick 0 0 0 0 0 Pingree, Chellie Democratic North Haven 0 0 0 0 In the 2nd column for your 2nd choice candidate, and so on. Russell, Ronald C. Republican Kennebunkport 0 Stein, Jill Ware, Rudolph Green Independent 0 0 ol 0 0 0 ol 0 ol 0 ol 0 King, Angus S., Jr. Independent Brunswick ol Continue until you have ranked as many or as few candidates as you like. Fill in only one oval in each column (ranking). 0 0 ol 0 0 0 ol 0 0 0 ol 0 0 Write-in To rank a Write-in candidate, write the person's name in the Write-in space and fill in the oval for the ranking of your West, Cornel Abdullah, Melina Justice for All 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Write-in 0 0 ol 0 0 0 To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice. Write-in If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

## Sample Ballot | CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2



This Maine Ballot has:

- Five Presidential Candidates
- Four Candidates for U.S. Senate
- Two Candidates for U.S. House of Representatives District 2

You also have the option to write-in a candidate name for each race.



Visit <u>www.Vote411.org</u> for more information about local races, such as candidates for Maine State House, Maine State Senate, City Council, School Board, and more.

#### State of Maine Sample Ballot General Election, November 5, 2024 **Instructions to Voters** 1st Choice 3rd Choice 1st Choice 2nd Choice 3rd Choice 5th Choice 6th Choice 2nd Choice 4th Choice 2nd Choice 5th Choice 3rd Choic 4th Choic President Vice President Rep. to Congress District 2 U.S. Senator To vote, fill in the oval like this: To rank your candidate choices, fill in the oval: Harris, Kamala D. Walz, Tim Democratic 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 · In the 1st column for your 0 0 0 0 0 Costello, David Allen Democratic Brunswick 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Theriault, Austin In the 2nd column for your 2nd choice candidate, and Republicar Fort Kent so on. 0 Stein, Jill Ware, Rudolph Green Independent 0 0 ol 0 0 King, Angus S., Jr. Independent Brunswick 0 ol 0 ol ol ol Continue until you have ranked as many or as few candidates as you like. Fill in only one oval in each column (ranking). Write-in 0 0 ol 0 0 0 ol ol 0 0 0 To rank a Write-in candidate, write the person's name in the Write-in space and fill in the oval for the ranking of your West, Cornel Abdullah, Melina Justice for All 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Write-in 0 0 ol 0 0 0 To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice. Write-in If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

## **Absentee Ballots**

#### What is absentee voting?

- If you want to vote early before Election Day, you can use an absentee ballot.
- Request your absentee ballot early if you plan to vote by mail. Ballots are mailed to voters 30 days before the election.
- You can also request and pick it up in person at your Town Clerk's office.
- Absentee ballots can be requested by any registered voter until Thursday, October 31. After October 31, you can still request an absentee ballot by providing a valid excuse.

#### How do I get an absentee ballot?

Any registered voter can request an absentee ballot by Thursday, October 31. Request your absentee ballot using one of these methods:



By phone



In person at your Town Office



By mail. You will need to print, fill out, and mail this application: https://bit.ly/RequestAbsenteePDF



Online using the form: <a href="https://bit.ly/">https://bit.ly/</a>
MaineAbsenteeRequest

\*Be aware that waiting until the October 31 deadline may not allow enough time for your ballot to reach you through the mail or to return your ballot by mail.

A member of your immediate family may request a ballot for you. Call your town clerk for more information.

#### **Uniformed and Overseas Voters**

Uniformed service members and overseas voters have different instructions. Learn more here: maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/uocava.html



#### **Accessible Ballots**

Voters can request an absentee paper ballot to vote via mail, or for voters with print disabilities (such as vision impairment or blindness, physical dexterity limitations, learning disabilities or cognitive impairment), you can request an electronic accessible ballot that will be sent to your email address.

Accessible ballots are available to voters at least 30 days before Election Day.
Request an accessible absentee ballot at: <a href="https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl">https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl</a>

QUICK LINK: <a href="https://bit.ly/">https://bit.ly/</a> MaineAbsenteeRequest

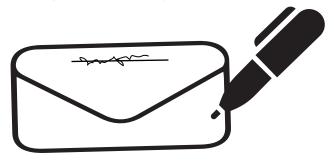
#### **Ongoing Absentee Voting**

If you are 65+ years old and/or live with a disability, you qualify to apply for ongoing absentee voter status. This means you can apply to have an absentee ballot sent to you automatically for each election cycle. You only have to apply once! Contact your Town Clerk to sign up for this service.

## **Absentee Ballots**

#### What do I do with my absentee ballot?

- 1. Fill out the ballot.
- 2. Put it in the special envelope and sign the envelope.



Be careful! Many people forget to sign the outer envelope.

- 3. Return your ballot to your town clerk's office by 8:00 PM on Election Day.
  - You can return your ballot by mail; be sure to mail it at least one week ahead of Election Day in case of delays.
  - You or an immediate family member can drop off your ballot in-person when your town office is open.
  - Many towns and cities will have secure dropboxes outside the town office, which will be accessible even when the office is closed.
  - Someone who is not in your family may return your ballot for you, but you will need two witnesses to sign the envelope.

4. Check the status of your absentee ballot online at: <a href="https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/">https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/</a>
<a href="https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/">AbsenteeBallot/ballot\_status.pl</a>

QUICK LINK: <a href="https://bit.ly/">https://bit.ly/</a> TrackMaineBallot

## How do I request an absentee ballot after Thursday, October 31?

To get an absentee ballot after the Thursday before the election, call or go in person to your city hall or town office and complete a special application.

Your application must include one of the following reasons:

- You will be out of town unexpectedly all day on Election Day.
- You have a disability.
- You live on an island and are unable to get to the voting place on Election Day.
- You have an illness and cannot leave home or a treatment facility.

Your Town Clerk must receive your absentee ballot by 8:00 PM on Election Day, November 5 in order for it to be counted.



Use your phone to scan the QR code to request your absentee ballot online.



## Presidential Candidates | JOB DESCRIPTION

# UNITED STATES PRESIDENT

Term (years to serve): 4 years Salary: \$400,000



### **Ranked Choice Voting**

Maine voters will use Ranked Choice Voting to rank their preferred presidential candidates in the general election on Tuesday, November 5.

You do not have to rank all the candidates if you are certain of your top choice. See PAGE 7 for how to use Ranked Choice Voting. See PAGES 8-9 for a sample ballot.

The President is the Chief Executive of the U.S. government and the Commander-in-Chief of all the military forces. As Chief Executive, the President: enforces laws, treaties, and court rulings, develops federal policies, prepares the national budget, and appoints federal officials.

The President also approves or vetoes acts of Congress and grants pardons. As Commander-in-Chief, the President has the authority to send troops into combat. The Constitution and federal law describe the powers of the President.

The election of President of the United States is an indirect election. The popular vote chooses delegates or electors to the Electoral College, which elects the President. The Electoral College has 538 electors. States have an elector for each member of Congress. States have two electors for their two Senators and one for each member of the House of Representatives (based on the state's population.) Maine has four electors.

The President must be at least 35 years old, a natural-born citizen of the United States, and have lived in the United States at least 14 years.

THE CANDIDATES: There are five presidential candidates on the Maine ballot.



CHASE OLIVER Libertarian



KAMALA HARRIS Democrat



JILL STEIN

Green Party



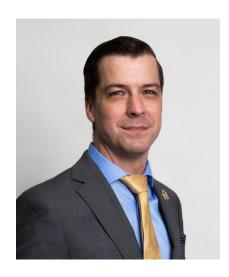
DONALD TRUMP Republican



CORNEL WEST
Justice for All

Note: Candidates appear in this guide in the order in which they appear on the ballot.

## President Election | CHASE OLIVER





Libertarian Party



Ranked Choice Voting
If this candidate is your
top choice, then you
will fill in the bubble
next to "1st Choice" on
your ballot.

Campaign Website votechaseoliver.com

Campaign Email info@votechaseoliver.com

facebook.com/ChaseForLiberty

@chaseforliberty

Mailing Address 3939 Lavista Rd STE E #368 Tucker GA 30084

## President Election | KAMALA HARRIS





**Democratic Party** 



Ranked Choice Voting
If this candidate is your
top choice, then you
will fill in the bubble
next to "1st Choice" on
your ballot.

Campaign Website

www.kamalaharris.com

Campaign Email

kamalaharris.com/contact-us

facebook.com/KamalaHarris

@kamalaharris

Mailing Address P.O. Box 265 Beals, ME 04611



More information is available. Visit Vote411.org or use your phone to scan the QR code.





## President Election | JILL STEIN





Green Party



Ranked Choice Voting
If this candidate is your
top choice, then you
will fill in the bubble
next to "1st Choice" on
your ballot.

Campaign Website www.jillstein2024.com

Campaign Email jillstein2024.com/contact

f facebook.com/drjillstein

drjillstein @drjillstein

Mailing Address P.O. Box 4359 Fall River, MA 02723

## President Election | DONALD TRUMP





Republican Party



Ranked Choice Voting
If this candidate is your
top choice, then you
will fill in the bubble
next to "1st Choice" on
your ballot.

## **Campaign Website**

www.donaldjtrump.com

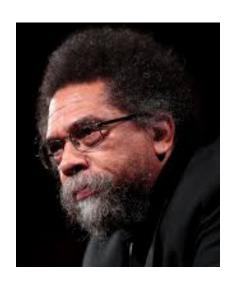
## Campaign Email info@donaldtrump.com

facebook.com/DonaldTrump



<u>@realdonaldtrump</u>

## President Election | CORNEL WEST





Justice for All



Ranked Choice Voting
If this candidate is your
top choice, then you
will fill in the bubble
next to "1st Choice" on
your ballot.

#### **Campaign Website**

www.cornelwest2024.com

#### **Campaign Email**

cornelwest2024.com/contact



facebook.com/drcornelwest/



@brothercornelwest

## SAMPLE PRESIDENTIAL BALLOT

For the November 5 election, all Maine voters will use Ranked Choice Voting in the **U.S.** 

Presidential race. The names of write-in candidates will not appear on your ballot, but if you know you want to vote for them, there will be space where you can write the candidate's name. Then, you can rank the candidates in the order of your preference. You do not have to rank all the candidates if you do not want to.

#### **Instructions to Voters**

To vote, fill in the oval like this: ●

To rank your candidate choices, fill in the oval:

- In the 1st column for your 1st choice candidate.
- In the 2nd column for your 2nd choice candidate, and so on.

Continue until you have ranked as many or as few candidates as you like. Fill in only one oval in each column (ranking).

To rank a Write-in candidate, write the person's name in the Write-in space and fill in the oval for the ranking of your choice.

To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice.

If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

President Vice President	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice
Harris, Kamala D. Walz, Tim Democratic	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oliver, Chase ter Maat, Mike Libertarian	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stein, Jill Ware, Rudolph Green Independent	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trump, Donald J. Vance, James D. Republican	0	0	0	0	0	0
West, Cornel Abdullah, Melina Justice for All	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0	0

## **U.S. Senate Candidates** | JOB DESCRIPTION

## UNITED STATES SENATOR

Term (years to serve): 6 years Salary: \$174,000



#### **Ranked Choice Voting**

Maine voters will use Ranked Choice Voting to rank their preferred U.S. Senate candidates in the general election on Tuesday, November 5.

You do not have to rank all the candidates if you are certain of your top choice. See PAGE 7 for how to use Ranked Choice Voting. See PAGES 8-9 for a sample ballot.

Senators write and pass laws. They share this job with the House of Representatives. They research issues of national importance and hold public hearings. The Senate approves treaties with other countries. They also approve cabinet members, federal judges, and foreign ambassadors who are chosen by the president.

Citizens of each state elect two Senators who represent the whole state. They serve for 6 years. Voters can elect a Senator for as many terms as they choose. The Senate consists of 100 members, two from each state. Every two years, one-third of the Senate is elected. Senators must be at least 30 years of age, a citizen of the United States for at least nine years, and a resident of the state the senator represents at time of election.

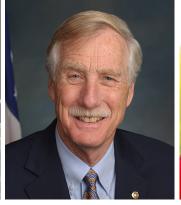
THE CANDIDATES: There are four U.S. Senate candidates on the Maine ballot.



JASON CHERRY Independent



DAVID COSTELLO Democrat



ANGUS KING Independent



DEMI KOUZOUNAS Republican

Note: Candidates appear in this guide in the order in which they appear on the ballot.

## U.S. Senator | JASON CHERRY



## **JASON CHERRY**



Independent



## **Ranked Choice Voting**

If this candidate is your top choice, then you will fill in the bubble next to "1st Choice" on your ballot.

## Campaign Website

cherryforsenate.com

#### **Campaign Email**

jason@cherryforsenate.com

## **Campaign Phone**

207-416-0448

#### **Mailing Address**

257 Stagecoach Road Unity, ME 04988

## What are the most important challenges we're facing, and how do you propose to address them?

Basic living costs, such as retirement, appear to be on the mind of many working-class people. As a parent and someone who cares about the rising costs of living, I am concerned about Senator King's proposal to raise the age of Social Security eligibility to 70 years old. He has not adequately addressed problems on his proposal. This concern is voiced in conjunction with the rise in elderly homelessness and the inability of younger generations to afford housing and education while being told they need to find spare income to save for retirement If senior citizens are struggling on Social Security benefits now, how does raising the eligibility age alleviate the trends for rising poverty?

## What policies will you propose during your term, and how will you get those policies passed into law?

In Maine, our largest trading partner is Canada, which has the ability to supply us with a greater renewable energy resources and boasts significant statistics for clean energy programs. Adequate energy is crucial to the development and sustainment of an economy. If elected, I would work closely with our northern partners to expand the market growth of renewable energy while minimizing the impact on Maine's environment and ensuring fair benefits are received by Mainers.

The second major proposal would be focused on the fair taxation of assets and wealth in the nation. As seen from many sources, both political parties have wealthy supporters who appear to be unwilling to contribute to the nation's welfare.







## U.S. Senator | DAVID COSTELLO



## **DAVID COSTELLO**



Democractic Party



## **Ranked Choice Voting**

If this candidate is your top choice, then you will fill in the bubble next to "1st Choice" on your ballot.

#### **Campaign Website**

www.costelloforsenate.com

#### **Campaign Email**

campaign@costelloforsenate.com



facebook.com/costelloforsenate



@costelloforsenate

#### Mailing Address PO Box 1038 Brunswick, ME 04011

What are the most important challenges we're facing, and how do you propose to address them?

Mainer's lack sufficient access to affordable housing and health care. To help in remedying the situation, I would back Senators Warren's and Warnock's American Housing and Economic Mobility Act which would increase and leverage federal funding to build millions of new homes and provide grants and tax credits to low-income renters and first-time home buyers. I would also support work to strengthen the Americans Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) by backing efforts to address remaining shortcomings, including the addition of a robust public insurance option (i.e., Medicare for all who need and want to participate). Additionally, I would back efforts to roll back the Bush and Trump tax cuts to fund the programs outlined above.

## What policies will you propose during your term, and how will you get those policies passed into law?

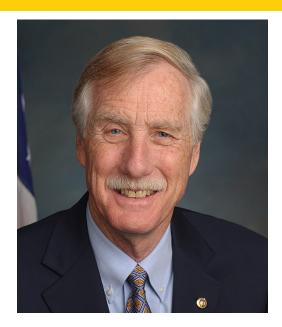
I would support efforts to ban partisan gerrymandering and voter suppression practices; back senate rule changes to end U.S. Senate holds and filibusters;" and work to overturn the Supreme Court's Citizen United decision and enact prodemocracy campaign finance laws. I would also propose legislation to establish more proportional representation in the U.S. House of Representatives (i.e., multi-winner districts with RCV) and restructure the Senate so that the allocation of political power is more in-line with a state's population. I would work to advance these reforms to end gridlock in Congress so that universal pre-k, gun safety, women's reproductive rights, social security benefit increases, and other important policy measures are enacted.







## U.S. Senator | ANGUS KING



## **ANGUS KING**



Independent



## **Ranked Choice Voting**

If this candidate is your top choice, then you will fill in the bubble next to "1st Choice" on your ballot.

Campaign Website angusformaine.com

Campaign Email info@angusformaine.com



facebook.com/angusformaine



@angusformaine

Campaign Phone 207-200-7804

Mailing Address PO Box 368 Brunswick, ME 04011

## What are the most important challenges we're facing, and how do you propose to address them?

Our nation faces a series of challenges from voting rights and saving our democracy, to housing costs, healthcare, supporting our seniors, energy and climate, ensuring our safety and security, and many more. That is why I have proposed legislation across issue areas. Just this Congress, I have introduced 64 bills and cosponsored 487 others. These bills cover topics from Committees I serve on, like the Energy Natural Resources Committee and the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, to Committees I do not serve on, like the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

## What policies will you propose during your term, and how will you get those policies passed into law?

How do you get it done? The answer is never simple. However, one of the first things I learned upon arriving in the Senate is that perseverance is important. My first Op-Ed as a candidate in 2012 focused on the need to bring broadband to Maine, especially to our rural areas. While it didn't happen right away, I was pleased to be a part of a bipartisan group that brought this important investment to Maine through the bipartisan infrastructure bill. I also dedicated time to capping the cost of insulin and investing in clean energy in the Inflation Reduction Act. Persistence is the key. That's how I've operated during my tenure, and that's how I will continue to get things done on behalf of all Maine people.







## U.S. Senator | DEMI KOUZOUNAS



Candidate chose not to participate.

(R)

Republican Party

## **Ranked Choice Voting**

If this candidate is your top choice, then you will fill in the bubble next to "1st Choice" on your ballot.

Campaign Website demiforsenate.com

Mailing Address PO Box 1508 Saco, ME 04072

Campaign Email info@demiforsenate.com



facebook.com/demiforsenate



@demiformaine

## SAMPLE SENATE BALLOT

For the November 5 election, all Maine voters will use Ranked Choice Voting in the **U.S. Senate race**. The names of write-in candidates will not appear on your ballot, but if you know you want to vote for them, there will be space where you can write the candidate's name. Then, you can rank the candidates in the order of your preference. You do not have to rank all the candidates if you do not want to.

U.S. Senator	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Cherry, Jason S. Independent Unity	0	0	0	0	0
Costello, David Allen Democratic Brunswick	0	0	0	0	0
King, Angus S., Jr. Independent Brunswick	0	0	0	0	0
Kouzounas, Demi Republican Saco	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0

## **U.S. House Candidates** | JOB DESCRIPTION

## UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

Term (years to serve): 2 years Salary: \$174,000



### **Ranked Choice Voting**

Maine voters will use Ranked Choice Voting to rank their preferred U.S. House candidates in the general election on Tuesday, November 8.

You do not have to rank all the candidates if you are certain of your top choice. See PAGE 7 for how to use Ranked Choice Voting. See PAGES 8-9 for a sample ballot.

Members of the House of Representatives write and pass the nation's laws. They share this job with Senators. They research issues of national importance and hold public hearings. Bills that raise money for any government program start in the House and must also be passed by the Senate.

The United States is divided into 435 Congressional districts. The districts are based on the number of people in the state. Every state has at least one Member of the House of Representatives. Maine has two. All Members of the House are elected in even-numbered years. Voters can elect a Representative for as many terms as they choose. U.S. Representatives must be at least 25 years of age, a citizen of the United States for at least seven years, and inhabitants of the state in which they serve.



THE CANDIDATES: Three U.S. House candidates appear on the ballot for CD 1. Two U.S. House candidates appear on the ballot for CD 2.



**ETHAN ALCORN** Congressional District 1 Independent



CHELLIE PINGREE Congressional District 1 Democrat



RONALD RUSSELL JARED GOLDEN Congressional District 1 Republican



Congressional District 2 Democrat



**AUSTIN THERIAULT** Congressional District 2 Republican

## U.S. House District 1 | CHELLIE PINGREE



## **CHELLIE PINGREE**



**Democratic Party** 



## **Ranked Choice Voting**

If this candidate is your top choice, then you will fill in the bubble next to "1st Choice" on your ballot.

## Campaign Website

chelliepingree.com

#### Campaign Email

campaign@pingreeforcongress.com



facebook.com/PingreeForCongress



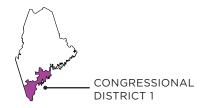
@chelliepingree

## Campaign Phone:

207-773-0155

## **Mailing Address**

PO Box 17613 Portland, ME 04112



## What are the most important challenges we're facing, and how do you propose to address them?

The most pressing challenge we face today is the threat to our democracy. Across the country, rightwing politicians and candidates are trying to suppress voters, undermine our electoral process, and distort the balance of power through partisan gerrymandering. We must pass legislation like the For the People Act, which supports automatic voter registration, improves access to absentee voting and voting by mail, and enhances voting system security. It also tackles the problem of partisan gerrymandering by establishing independent redistricting commissions. Finally, it introduces a new public financing system for federal campaigns, which would reduce the influence of big money in politics.

## What policies will you propose during your term, and how will you get those policies passed into law?

My focus in Congress has always been to fight for the people of Maine who sent me to Washington. My policy priorities are centered around supporting Maine families, investing in our coastal and rural communities, working with our farmers and fishermen, and protecting our environment. My primary platform for this work is the House Appropriations Committee, where my colleagues and I on both sides of the aisle deliberate on our priorities in the annual federal budget. As a senior member of this committee, I fight to bring muchneeded federal resources to Maine and do oversight to ensure that agencies and programs are working as they should.







## U.S. House District 1 | ETHAN ALCORN





Candidate chose not to participate.

**U**nenro

Unenrolled Indepedent

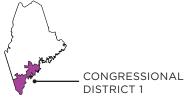
Campaign Website ethanforushouse.org



Ranked Choice Voting
If this candidate is your
top choice, then you will
fill in the bubble next to
"1st Choice" on your ballot.

## U.S. House District 1 | RONALD RUSSELL





Candidate chose not to participate.

(R)

Republican Party



Ranked Choice Voting
If this candidate is your
top choice, then you will
fill in the bubble next to
"1st Choice" on your ballot.

Campaign Phone 207-604-3491

Mailing Address 188 Mills Rd Kennebunkport, ME 04046

**Campaign Website** 

ronrussellforcongress.com

**Campaign Email** 

Russell@RonRussellForCongress.com

## U.S. House District 2 | JARED GOLDEN



## JARED GOLDEN



**Democratic Party** 



## **Ranked Choice Voting**

If this candidate is your top choice, then you will fill in the bubble next to "1st Choice" on your ballot.

#### **Campaign Website**

jaredgoldenforcongress.com

#### **Campaign Email**

info@jaredgoldenforcongress.com



<u>facebook.com/</u>
<u>JaredGoldenforCongress</u>

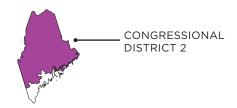


@golden4congress

**Campaign Phone** (207) 358-0483

#### **Mailing Address**

PO Box 7108 Lewiston, ME 04240



## What are the most important challenges we're facing and how do you plan to address them?

As our national politics becomes more and more polarized, all of us need to find ways to turn down the temperature of our national discourse and build bridges, rather than burn them down. While we can never waver on our values, we must find ways to disagree without hyperbole. For my part, I believe that most Members of Congress want to do right by their constituents and the American People, and I will continue to focus on what's best for Maine and work with anyone who will help improve Mainers' lives — even if I oppose them on another issue the next day.

## What policies will you propose during your term, and how will you get those policies passed into law??

You have to be ready for anything in Congress, while preparing for the major legislation you know will come down the pipe. I serve on the House Armed Services Committee, where we are responsible for writing a National Defense Authorization Act every year. I will keep fighting for the good jobs at BIW, and for policies and funding to ensure our servicemembers have the resources they need to succeed and veterans get the benefits they've earned. Additionally, I will prioritize extending the moratorium on new gear requirements for Maine's lobstermen, supporting domestic manufacturing, and seeking solutions to reduce the deficit. I'll also continue to look for ways to reduce costs for Mainers, ensure big corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share, advocate for indigenous Mainers and to make sure small businesses have the best chance to succeed.







## U.S. House District 2 | AUSTIN THERIAULT





Candidate chose not to participate.



Republican Party



Ranked Choice Voting
If this candidate is your
top choice, then you will
fill in the bubble next to
"1st Choice" on your ballot.

Campaign Website www.austinformaine.com

Campaign Email info@austinformaine.com



facebook.com/
austinformaine



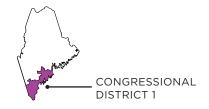
@austintheriault

Campaign Phone 207-543-4162

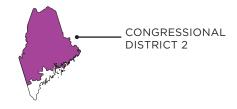
Mailing Address PO Box 291 Fort Kent, ME 04743

## SAMPLE HOUSE BALLOT

For the November 5 election, all Maine voters will use Ranked Choice Voting in the **U.S. House** of Representatives race. The names of write-in candidates will not appear on your ballot, but if you know you want to vote for them, there will be space where you can write the candidate's name. Then, you can rank the candidates in the order of your preference. You do not have to rank all the candidates if you do not want to.



Rep. to Congress District 1	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
Alcorn, Ethan Weld unenrolled/Independent Saco	0	0	0	0
Pingree, Chellie Democratic North Haven	0	0	0	0
Russell, Ronald C. Republican Kennebunkport	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0



Rep. to Congress District 2	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice
Golden, Jared Forrest Democratic Lewiston	0	0	0
Theriault, Austin Republican Fort Kent	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0

## **Ballot Question Guide**

On November 5, Mainers will vote on five statewide ballot questions.

#### THE TYPE OF BALLOT QUESTIONS:

Question 1 is a Citizen's Initiative. These reach the ballot through a process of signature collection. When enough Maine voters sign the petition, the question goes on the ballot for a statewide vote.

Questions 2-4 are Bond Issues. Bonds allow the state to finance long term public projects that seek to improve infrastructure and create jobs. Bonds are first passed by the Maine Legislature and then placed on the ballot for a statewide vote.

Question 5 was a bill that was passed by the Maine Legislature and then sent to the ballot so that Mainers could approve of the new flag.

#### **QUESTION ONE:**

On your ballot, the question will read:
An Act to Limit Contributions to Political
Action Committees That Make Independent
Expenditures. Do you want to set a \$5,000 limit
for giving to political action committees that
spend money independently to support or defeat
candidates for office?

What it's asking: This question asks if you want to set a contribution limit of \$5,000 to Political Action Committees, or PACs, that make independent expenditures, also known as Super PACs. Anyone can make an independent expenditure for or against a candidate. That includes individuals, groups, corporations, labor organizations, and political committees. Independent expenditures are not contributions and are not subject to limits. What does an independent expenditure look like? As an

example, a Super PAC could spend money on an independently produced ad that promotes their preferred candidate — or attacks their opponent.

PROS: Groups are quick to fund Super PACs because there are currently no limits and because the names of big donors are not disclosed. This means that groups can feed large amounts of money into independent expenditures, like robust television campaigns that attack a political opponent. Some may see Super PACs as a form of corruption and think they should have limits like regular PACs.

CONS: Super PACs may be seen as a form of expression protected under the First Amendment. Advocates who want to keep Super PACs will argue that imposing limits would be unconstitutional.

A YES vote means you want to set a contribution limit of \$5,000 to Political Action Committees. A NO vote means you do not want a contribution limit.

#### **QUESTION TWO:**

On your ballot, the question will read: An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development and Commercialization. Do you favor a bond issue of \$25,000,000 to provide funds, to be awarded through a competitive process and to leverage matching private and federal funds on at least a one-to-one basis, for research and development and commercialization for Maine-based public and private institutions in support of technological innovation in the targeted sectors of life sciences and biomedical technology, environmental and renewable energy technology, information technology, advanced technologies for forestry and agriculture, aquaculture and marine technology, composites and advanced materials and precision manufacturing?

What it's asking: The state of Maine has a science and technology plan that seeks to compare our infrastructure to other states, note where there are gaps, and make recommendations for improvements. This question asks if you want

## **Ballot Question Guide**

to designate funds to the Maine Technology Institute, which will use the funds to offer grants and loans to businesses and organizations, both public and private, that are working towards fulfilling Maine's science and technology plan.

PROS: Question two came from a bill, LD 416, brought forward in the Maine Legislature. The bill was sponsored by both Democrats and Republicans. Groups believe that this bond will increase research and development opportunities, grow Maine's economy, and establish the state as a biotech hub.

CONS: Some may be uncomfortable that the state will send millions of dollars to public and private sectors. Some others may be opposed to state borrowing in general.

A YES vote means you approve of the \$25,000,000 bond to the Maine Technology Institute. A NO vote means you do not approve of the bond.

#### **QUESTION THREE:**

On your ballot, the question will read: An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Restore Historic Community Buildings. Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue to restore historic buildings owned by governmental and nonprofit organizations, with funds being issued contingent on a 25% local match requirement from either private or nonprofit sources?

What it's asking: This question asks if you want to approve of a \$10,000,000 bond to be issued to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. The Commission will deliver funds as grants to government and nonprofit organizations that apply to restore the historic buildings in their communities.

PROS: Question 3 came from a bill, LD 912, brought forward in the Maine Legislature. It was sponsored by both a Democrat and a Republican. Government and nonprofit groups support the bill and advocate for more funding to save and restore special, historic buildings in their communities.

CONS: Some may oppose the state spending money on historic buildings instead of building new ones. Some others may be opposed to state borrowing in general.

A YES vote means you approve of the \$10,000,000 bond to restore historic buildings. A NO vote means you do not approve of the bond.

#### QUESTION FOUR:

On your ballot, the question will read: An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Promote the Design, Development and Maintenance of Trails for Outdoor Recreation and Active Transportation. Do you favor a \$30,000,000 bond issue to invest in the design, development and maintenance for nonmotorized, motorized and multi-use trails statewide, to be matched by at least \$3,000,000 in private and public contributions?

What it's asking: Do you want the state of Maine to invest in and maintain statewide trails? If approved by voters, the Maine Trails Program will be developed over several years. Some trails will be nonmotorized (used for hiking and biking), some will be designated for ATVs and other motorized vehicles, while half will be multi-use trails. The bond will also help repair damage caused by erosion, severe storms, and climate change.

PROS: Question four came from a bill, LD 1156, brought forward in the Maine Legislature. It was sponsored by both Democrats and Republicans. Advocates believe that this will expand and improve Maine's outdoor recreation economy.

CONS: Some may oppose the state spending money on recreational trails because it does not offer a return investment, and that the state's current trail system is sufficient. Some others may be opposed to state borrowing in general.

A YES vote means you approve of the \$30,000,000 bond to create a statewide system of trails to be known as the Maine Trails Program. A NO vote means you do not approve of the bond.

## **Ballot Question Guide**

#### **QUESTION FIVE:**

On your ballot, the question will read: An Act to Restore the Former State of Maine Flag. Do you favor making the former state flag, replaced as the official flag of the State in 1909 and commonly known as the Pine Tree Flag, the official flag of the State?

What it's asking: Do you want to keep the current blue coat of arms Maine flag that features a farmer and seaman (pictured left)? Or do you want to replace the flag with a design similar to the 1909 Pine Tree Flag that features a blue star and pine tree on a light tan background (also pictured left)? It's common for states to update and modernize their flags to better represent that state's culture.

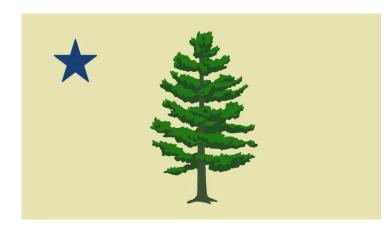
PROS: The Pine Tree Flag was once the state's official flag but was replaced in 1909. The Pine Tree Flag has become a staple symbol in Maine's tourism industry. It's a common and popular flag used to sell souvenirs and decor items. People may prefer the simple look of the flag and the iconic pine tree and star.

CONS: Others may prefer the Maine Coat of Arms on the blue background that has been used for 115 years. People like that the flag features a farmer and a seaman, along with a north star that represents Maine's powerful motto: dirigo, or "I Lead." Others will also argue that, if the flag changes, the state will have to spend additional money to buy new flags that hang at government buildings.

A YES vote means you want to change Maine's state flag to the Pine Tree Flag. A NO vote means you do not want to change Maine's flag.



Current flag: Blue Coat of Arms



Proposed new flag: Pine Tree Flag





If you want to feel informed and confident when you vote, check out your personalized voting information on <a href="Vote411.org">Vote411.org</a>. It's quick and easy.





Use your phone to scan the QR code to visit Vote411.org.





@lwvme

#### **ABOUT THIS GUIDE**

The League of Women Voters of Maine Education Fund is pleased to produce our **nonpartisan** voter guide. The information in this guide does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

All candidate statements are provided by the candidates and are not edited or changed in any way by the League of Women Voters of Maine Education Fund. Candidate statements or explanations of any ballot questions included here do not represent the views of the League or any of our distribution partners, including any schools, libraries, nonprofit organizations, or agencies.

#### **Questions & Copies of this Guide**

If you have questions, call (207) 622-0256 or email info@lwvme.org.

This guide is available online at: www.lwvme.org.

The League of Women Voters of Maine is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate. The League is not just for women! Anyone who supports the League's mission is welcome as a member. Join the League of Women Voters of Maine online at: <a href="https://linearchy.com/linearchy.co

## SUPPORTERS OF THIS GUIDE INCLUDE:

# patagonia













