

EASY-TO-READ VOTER GUIDE

Maine 2018 General Election - November 6, 2018

STATEWIDE CANDIDATES & ISSUES

VOTE
NOV. 6



What's inside:

- 3** About this Guide
- 5** Why Vote?
- 6** Registering to Vote
- 8** Political Parties
- 10** Before Voting
- 11** At the Voting Place
- 12** ExpressVote System
- 13** Ranked Choice Voting
- 14** Sample Ballots
- 16** Absentee Ballots
- 18** Candidates for Governor
- 20** Candidates for U.S. Senator
- 22** Candidates for U.S. Representative
- 26** Citizen Initiatives / Bond Issues



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
OF MAINE
EDUCATION FUND



★ About this Guide



The League of Women Voters of Maine Education Fund is pleased to distribute 75,000 copies of this voter guide for the 2018 general election.

This information is nonpartisan. This means that the information in this guide does not endorse or support any candidate, political party, or position on a ballot question.

All candidate statements are provided by the candidates and not edited or changed by the League of Women Voters of Maine Education Fund. No candidate statements or explanations of any ballot questions are 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 ext. 2, or email voterguide@lwvme.org

This guide is also available online at lwvme.org



★ Why Vote?

★ 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 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 Election Day, Maine voters will choose:

- Maine Governor
- U.S. Senator
- U.S. Representative
- State Senator
- State Representative
- Officials for county offices
- Officials for local offices in some towns

More about candidates on pages 18-25.

Maine voters will answer Yes or No to citizen initiative and bond questions:

- There is one initiative – voters choose whether to pass a new law.
- There are four bond questions – voters decide if the state can borrow money to pay for certain projects.
- There are local issues in some towns.

More on ballot questions on pages 26-31.

★ When is Election Day?

Election Day is **Tuesday, November 6, 2018.**

★ Registering to Vote

★ How do I register to vote?

You can register to vote in Maine if you are:

- An 18-year-old citizen of the United States residing in Maine.
- A 17-year-old citizen who will turn 18 by Election Day.

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.

More information about absentee ballots on page 16.

People who are homeless can still vote. If you are homeless, you register to vote using the location where you sleep. This location could be a shelter, a friend's place, or outside.

★ You can register to vote for the November 6 election:

- By mail. *Your registration needs to be received by your town clerk by October 16, 2018.*
- At a voter registration drive by October 15. *Registrations need to be received by your town clerk by October 16, 2018.*
- At a Bureau of Motor Vehicles office by October 5. *Registrations need to be received by your town clerk by October 16, 2018.*
- In person at your city hall or town office anytime, up to and including Election Day, November 6, 2018.
- At your voting place on Election Day, November 6, 2018.

★ You must fill out a voter registration card:

- Complete both the front and back of the card.
- Sign and date the card.
- You **do not** have to join a political party to vote. *If you do not want to join a political party, check **Unenrolled** on the registration card. **More information about political parties on page 8.***
- You must be a member of a party to vote in the primary election for that party.

For detailed instructions, go to: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/voterguide.html>

★ Voter Registration Card

★ This is an example of a voter registration card

MAINE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION			PARTY AFFILIATION	
Federally required questions:			<input type="checkbox"/> Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Green Independent <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Other qualifying party: <input type="checkbox"/> Unenrolled (no party choice)	
♦ Are you a citizen of the United States of America? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO ♦ Will you be 18 years of age on or before Election Day? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
If you checked "no" in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form. You must be a U.S. citizen in order to vote.				
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	
			_ / _ / _ _ _ _ M M D D Y Y Y Y	
CURRENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Physical address where you live)				
STREET NAME AND NUMBER, <u>NOT</u> A P.O. BOX			CITY, TOWN, PLANTATION OR TOWNSHIP	
CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS (Complete if different from above address)				
STREET NAME AND NUMBER, OR P.O. BOX, etc.			CITY/TOWN	ZIP CODE
Have you previously been registered to vote? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If the answer is "yes" provide address of previous registration below.				TELEPHONE (Optional)
CITY/TOWN	COUNTY	STATE		
COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THIS CARD – PLEASE PRINT				

MAINE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION				
- COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF THIS CARD -				
CHANGE OF NAME (Prior legal name, if applicable) <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">LAST</td> <td style="width: 33%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">FIRST</td> <td style="width: 33%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">MIDDLE</td> </tr> </table> SIGN AND DATE THIS CARD. I certify that all the information I have provided on this form is true. Signature of Applicant on line above Date on line above	LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE	VOTER ID: By federal law, NEW Maine voters must provide an applicable ID number as follows: 1. Your Maine driver's license/Maine State ID; or 2. The last 4 digits of your Social Security number (ONLY if you don't have a Maine driver's license/Maine State ID); or 3. Write "none" ONLY if you don't have either 1 or 2. _ _ _ _
LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE		
REGISTRAR'S USE ONLY: Date Received: _____ Ward-Precinct: _____ - _____ Source of Registration: <input type="checkbox"/> In Person <input type="checkbox"/> By Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> BMV <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Registration Drive/3 rd Person Type of Registration: <input type="checkbox"/> NEW Maine Voter Registration Form of Proof for ID: _____ for Residency: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Existing Voter Registration (check boxes below) Form of Proof for Residency: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change to new municipality <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change within municipality <input type="checkbox"/> Party Enrollment Change <input type="checkbox"/> Name Change <input type="checkbox"/> Other Change _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate Application (no changes made)				
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Failure to complete this entire application may prevent registration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver or mail this completed card to your municipal registrar or to the Division of Elections: #101 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0101. This properly completed application must be received by the municipal registrar 21 days or more before an election. <u>If less than 21 days before an election, you must register in person.</u> If you are a NEW Maine voter and mail this card, you must include a photocopy of your Maine driver's license, Maine State ID, or current utility bill, bank statement or government document that shows your name and address. For election information, call 207-624-7650 or visit www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/ (rev. 01/17) 				

★ Political Parties

★ What is a political party?

A political party is a group of people who share similar ideas about how government should work.

When you register to vote, you can join a political party if you want. It does not cost any money. You can also fill out a new voter registration card to change your party registration.

Examples of political parties include the **Democratic** Party, the **Green Independent** Party, the **Libertarian** Party, and the **Republican** Party.

★ You do not need to join a political party to vote in the November general election.

- You do not need to join a political party to vote in municipal elections or in special referendum elections.
- You **do need** to join a political party to vote for candidates in a June primary election.

★ How do I join a political party?

- You join a political party using the voter registration card.
- If you do not belong to a party, you may join a party anytime, including on Election Day.
- You must remain a member of the party for at least three months.

★ Political Parties

★ What do Maine's qualified political parties stand for?

The following statements are provided by the political parties:

Maine Democratic Party

"Government should work for all Mainers. Everyone should have a fair shot at success. Our values lead us in our work. We fight for health care for everyone, strong schools everywhere, and an economy that works for all Mainers."

TOP PRIORITIES

1. An economy that works for everyone.
2. Health care for all.
3. Fairness and equality.

LEARN MORE

Website: MaineDems.org

Phone: 207-622-6233

Maine Green Independent Party

"The Maine Green Party is based on Ten Key Values: Grassroots Democracy; Social Justice and Equal Opportunity; Ecological Wisdom; Non-Violence; Decentralization; Community-Based Economics and Economic Justice; Gender Equality; Respect for Diversity; Personal and Global Responsibility; and Future Focus and Sustainability."

TOP PRIORITIES

1. Sustainable Jobs for the People of Maine.
2. Climate Change and Social Justice.
3. People, Peace, and Planet over Profit.

LEARN MORE

Website: MaineGreens.org

Phone: 207-284-3358

Libertarian Party of Maine

"Libertarians value the right of all to live in whatever manner they choose, as long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose."

TOP PRIORITIES

1. End endless wars.
2. End endless government debt.
3. Prison and drug law reform.

LEARN MORE

Website: LPME.org

Phone: 207-841-1129

Maine Republican Party

"The Maine Republican Party is committed to individual liberty; religious freedom; low and fair taxes; equality of opportunity for all; affordable government; strengthening families and communities; protecting the Constitution; and the safety of the American people."

TOP PRIORITIES

1. Job creation, economic growth, and increased prosperity.
2. Security and safety.
3. Individual & religious liberty.

LEARN MORE

Website: MaineGOP.org

Phone: 207-622-6247

★ Before Voting

★ Where do I go to vote?

Each town has at least one voting place. To find out where to vote:

- Call your city hall or town office.
- Go to http://www.maine.gov/portal/government/edemocracy/voter_lookup.php
- Vote by absentee ballot. **More information about absentee ballots on page 16.**

★ What time do I vote?

Most voting places open at 7:00 a.m. on Election Day. The opening time is not the same for all cities and towns. Contact your town clerk if you have any questions.

All voting places close at 8:00 p.m.

★ How can I avoid the crowds at my voting place?

Voting places are less crowded from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

★ 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.
- You may be sent to a different voting place.
- If your problem is not solved, you can ask to vote with a **“challenged ballot.”** *Your vote will count on Election Day. Your problem can be solved later.*

★ Do I need an ID (identification card)?

No. Registered Maine voters do not need to show ID to vote.

BUT, 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 Voting Place

★ What will I do at the voting place?

- Go to the election clerk. Give your name and address.
- If you are registered to vote, your name will be on the list.
- The election clerk will give you a ballot or ballots.
- A ballot is the paper where you mark your votes.
- You will go into a private voting booth and mark your ballot.
- 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. You will not be the only one with questions!

★ How do I fill out the ballot?

- Each ballot tells you how to mark your choices.
- You will be using ranked choice voting for some candidate elections. You can rank as many candidates as you wish. Or you can rank only one.
- If you have a question, ask an election clerk.
- You do not have to vote for everything. Only the parts you vote on will count.
- Check your ballot.
- If you have made a mistake, you can ask for a new ballot.

★ What if I can't read the ballot?

You can get help from:

- 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.

A special machine is available if you want to see a large print ballot or hear a ballot read to you. ***More information about this on the next page.***

★ ExpressVote System

★ 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.

★ Can I use ExpressVote at my polling place?

Yes, you can use ExpressVote at any voting place.

- Tell the election clerk at your voting place you want to use ExpressVote.
- The election clerk will set up the ExpressVote for you to use.

★ 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?

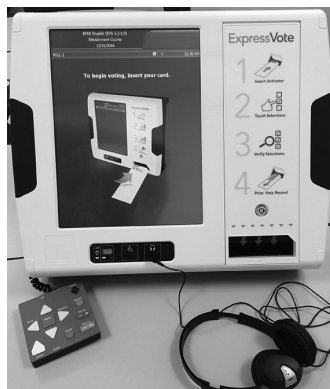
You can make your selections by:

- Touching the screen.
- Using a keypad with different-shaped, colored buttons with braille labels.
- Using a switch with a green YES or a red NO.

When you are done the device prints a ballot marked with your choices.

You put your ballot into the ballot box or counting machine.

For more information on the ExpressVote system visit
<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/accessiblevoting.html>



This is a tabletop ExpressVote unit, with a keypad and headphones.

★ Ranked Choice Voting

★ What is ranked choice voting?

Ranked choice voting lets voters rank the candidates in order of preference.

★ 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, he or she wins.
- If no candidate receives more than 50% of first choice votes, the candidate with fewest votes is defeated.
- Voters who ranked the defeated candidate as their first choice have their votes counted for their second choice.
- This is repeated until only two candidates remain. The one with the most votes wins.

★ 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 whom you do not support.
- If you make a mistake, ask the clerk for a new ballot.
- Ask for help. You won't be the only one with questions.

★ Which races will have ranked choice voting this November?

Ranked choice voting will be used in the November 6, 2018 election for:

- U.S. Senate
- U.S. Congressional District 1
- U.S. Congressional District 2

Ranked choice voting will not be used for other offices in November 2018. We will not be using ranked choice voting for governor or for Maine state legislative races.

★ Sample Ballot – 1st District

★ This is a sample ranked choice ballot for the 1st Congressional District.

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 no more than one oval for each candidate or column.

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.

U.S. Senator	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
Brakey, Eric L. Auburn Republican	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
King, Angus S., Jr. Brunswick Independent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ringelstein, Zak Yarmouth Democratic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Rep. to Congress District 1	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
Grohman, Martin J. Biddelford Independent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Holbrook, Mark I. Brunswick Republican	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pingree, Chellie North Haven Democratic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

★ Sample Ballot – 2nd District

★ This is a sample ranked choice ballot for the 2nd Congressional District.

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 no more than one oval for each candidate or column.

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.

U.S. Senator	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
Brakey, Eric L. Auburn Republican	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
King, Angus S., Jr. Brunswick Independent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ringelstein, Zak Yarmouth Democratic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Rep. to Congress District 2	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Bond, Tiffany L. Portland Independent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Golden, Jared F. Lewiston Democratic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hoar, William R.S. Southwest Harbor Independent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poliquin, Bruce Oakland Republican	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

★ Absentee Ballots

★ What is absentee voting?

If you want to vote before Election Day, you can use an absentee ballot.

If you are registered to vote, you can ask for an absentee ballot. **You must do so by Thursday, November 1, 2018.**

Absentee ballots are available starting 30 days before the election. That is around October 8, 2018.

★ How do I get an absentee ballot?

- You do not need a reason to request an absentee ballot by Thursday, November 1.
- You can ask for an absentee ballot from your city hall or town clerk.
- You can request an absentee ballot at this link: <https://maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl>
- You can also ask for an absentee ballot for an immediate family member. Your city hall or town clerk's office will be able to tell you who is considered an immediate family member.
- Uniformed service members and overseas voters have different instructions. Follow instructions from the Maine Secretary of State here: <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/uocava.html>

★ What do I do with my absentee ballot?

- Fill out the ballot.
- Put it in the special envelope and sign the envelope.
- Mail or deliver your ballot to your city or town clerk before Election Day. **Ballots must be received by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.**

★ How do I request an absentee ballot after Thursday, November 1, 2018?

It is harder to get an absentee ballot after the Thursday before the election.

To get an absentee ballot after the Thursday before the election, 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 city or town clerk must receive your absentee ballot by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 6, 2018.

★ More Information

★ How do I find my city hall or town clerk?

For the most up-to-date contact information visit the website of your city or town.

You can find the address and phone number for your city hall or town clerk at:

<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/munic.html>

You can also contact:

Office of the Secretary of State

Division of Elections

101 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0101

Phone: 207-624-7650

Email: cec.elections@maine.gov

Website: maine.gov/sos/

★ Can I see the ballot before the election?

Yes. You can see what the ballot looks like at this link:

https://maine.gov/portal/government/edemocracy/voter_lookup.php

★ Governor of Maine

The Governor carries out the laws, chooses people to run government agencies, and nominates judges.

Governors can suggest new laws. They can veto bills that the Legislature passes. Veto means that the Governor wants to stop the bill from becoming a law. Two-thirds (2/3) of the Legislature can force the bill to become a law even if the governor vetoes the bill.

Governors are elected every four years. Voters can elect a Governor for two terms for a total of eight years. A person must be 30 years old to be Governor. Governors of Maine must be citizens of the United States for at least 15 years and living in Maine for at least five years.

Term (years until next election): 4 years

Salary: \$70,000 a year

★ Candidates



Traditional Ballot



Independent Candidate

Alan Caron

Current Job: Small Business Owner

Hometown: Freeport, Maine

Website: CaronForGovernor.com

Statement: "I am a lifelong Mainer, born and raised in Waterville, in a family of mill workers and farmers. I've been an advocate for Maine all of my adult life, a small business owner, social entrepreneur and writer. My emphasis is on ideas to build a new economy in Maine."

Experience: "I have led multiple statewide and local organizations and two businesses. I have co-authored two books on the Maine economy and brought the Brookings Institution to Maine to write another. I have convened thousands of Maine people to focus on the future, on the positive and on common ground solutions."

Goals:

- A new economy driven by the state's innovators and entrepreneurs
- An efficient, modern government
- Energy Independence, employing solar and offshore wind to reduce the billions of dollars we pay annually to oil and gas companies



Independent Candidate

Teresa "Terry" Hayes

Current Job: Maine's first independent State Treasurer

Hometown: Buckfield, Maine

Website: HayesForMaine.com

Statement: "Terry leads with integrity, models civility, and puts people over partisanship to solve problems. Maine's independent, Clean Elections candidate, Terry is beholden only to the Mainers, and not to party leaders, special interests, or wealthy contributors. Terry brings people together and focuses them on what matters, better outcomes for Maine."

Experience: "Republicans and Democrats twice elected Terry to serve as Maine's first independent State Treasurer. She rises above the partisan fray to solve problems. Terry collaborated with LePage and lawmakers to right Maine's finances. Independent, experienced, and courageous, Terry will focus on the issues that will help all of Maine prosper."

Goals: "Terry will unite Republicans, Democrats, and independents around common sense solutions to attract skilled workers, prepare our students for the jobs of today and tomorrow, lower health care costs, and keep Maine safe and beautiful."

★ Governor of Maine

★ Candidates (continued)



Janet Mills

Current Job: Maine Attorney General

Hometown: Farmington, Maine

Website: JanetMills.com

Statement: “Janet was born and raised in Farmington where she still proudly lives. She is courageous, independent-minded and believes in working together. As Attorney General, she has worked to protect Maine people. As Governor, she will work to improve the quality of life in our communities.”

Experience: “Janet Mills is a lifelong Mainer. She served in the Legislature on the budget committee and was Maine’s first woman to serve as Attorney General. After marrying her husband, who was a widower Janet Mills became a full-time mom to five daughters while working full-time; she learned a lot about compromise!”

Goals: “Janet will work to make healthcare and prescription drugs more affordable, improve Maine’s economy and make sure every child has the opportunity to succeed by funding Maine education.”

Democratic
Party Candidate



Shawn Moody

Current Job: Entrepreneur

Hometown: Gorham, Maine

Website: ShawnMoody.com

Statement: “My approach to leadership is based on empowering people and challenging them to achieve success. I have over 40 years of executive experience, and know what it takes to build a successful organization. Maine will succeed if we invest in our greatest resource – our people.”

Experience: “I have over forty years of executive experience running a successful Maine company. I was also the first person to serve concurrently on both the University of Maine System Board of Trustees and the Community College System. I know how to build consensus and get things done.”

Goals: “My number one focus as Governor is to continue to strengthen and grow Maine’s economy so Maine people have the opportunity to prosper in our beautiful state.”

Republican Party
Candidate

★ U.S. Senator

U.S. Senators write and pass laws for the United States. They share this job with the Members of the House of Representatives, who are also called Congressmen or Congresswomen. Senators also approve cabinet members, federal judges, and foreign ambassadors chosen by the President.

Citizens of each state elect two Senators who represent the whole state. They serve for six 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 (1/3) of the Senate is elected. U.S. Senators must be at least 30 years of age. They must be citizens of the United States for at least nine years and living in Maine.

Term (years until next election): 6 years

Salary: \$174,000 a year

★ Candidates



Ranked Choice Ballot



Eric Brakey

Current Job: Maine State Senator

Hometown: Auburn, Maine

Website: EricBrakey.com

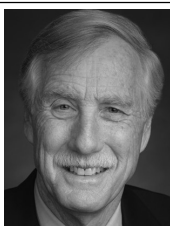
Statement: “Maine deserves a better deal. Washington is now the richest region in America while Maine people are underpaid and overtaxed. I am running for US Senate to fight for Maine and lift Washington’s burdens on our economy, so our children can find high-paying jobs right here and not move away.”

Republican
Party Candidate

Experience: “In the Maine Senate, I built bipartisan coalitions to cut taxes, reform welfare and expand healthcare options. Now, employers across Maine are hiring again. We’ve made huge progress, but to keep moving forward we need a US Senator fighting to empower Maine people, not Washington special interests.”

Goals:

- Reduce our national debt and establish economic freedom zones to slash federal taxes and encourage investment in depressed areas
- Fix our healthcare system with market-driven solutions
- Defend our freedoms and liberties as Maine people



Angus King

Current Job: U.S. Senator

Hometown: Brunswick, Maine

Website: AngusForMaine.com

Statement: “I’ve always tried to represent the best of the people of Maine – their hardworking spirit and commitment to civil conversation. In the Senate, I have worked to promote greater dialogue between people – regardless of political affiliation – so that we can work together to solve the pressing issues facing our country.”

Independent
Candidate

Experience: “The current political climate calls for thoughtful, committed leaders who will fight for health insurance for thousands of Maine people and for good jobs throughout our state. I believe my experience working for Maine people as governor and now as senator makes me the right person to continue this work.”

Goals:

- Increasing prevention and treatment for individuals struggling with opioid use
- Protecting and expanding health insurance access
- Working on rebuilding Maine’s rural economy through expanding broadband, workforce development, and avoiding climate change impacts

★ U.S. Senator

★ Candidates (continued)



Ranked Choice Ballot



Democratic
Party Candidate

Zak Ringelstein

Current Job: Public school teacher

Hometown: Yarmouth, Maine

Website: RingelsteinForMaine.com

Statement: “My wife, Leah, and I, were raised in rural, working-class homes. After graduating college \$150,000 in debt, we worked hard as public school teachers and founders of an education company. As the father of two young children during the Trump administration, I believe we need bold, uninfluenced leadership now.”

Experience: “When I was invited to the White House to work on education policy, I quickly realized not a single other person in the room had ever worked in a public school. The working class is on the menu, not at the table. I’m running for U.S. Senate to change that.”

Goals:

- Enact Medicare for All, because healthcare is a human right
- Reignite our economy and fight climate change by investing in a Green New Deal
- Get Money Out of Politics by repealing Citizens United and ending corporate campaign lobbying

★ U.S. Representative – 1st District

Members of the House of Representatives write and pass laws for the United States. They share this job with Senators. Bills that raise money for any government program start in the House and must also be passed by the Senate. Members of the House are also called U.S. Congressmen or Congresswomen.

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 U.S. Representatives are elected in even-numbered years. Voters can elect Members of the House of Representatives for as many terms as they choose. U.S. Representatives must be at least 25 years of age. They must be citizens of the United States for at least seven years and living in Maine.

Term (years until next election): 2 years

Salary: \$174,000 a year

★ Candidates – 1st District



Ranked Choice Ballot



Martin "Marty" Grohman

Current Job: Consultant for commercial roofing company

Hometown: Biddeford, Maine

Website: MartyGrohman.com

Independent Candidate

Statement: "Maine people are not well served by extreme partisan politicians. Washington dysfunction is at a fever pitch and I have a track record in business and in the state Legislature of finding strong solutions to our state's biggest problems by bringing people together. That's what I'll do in Congress as well."

Experience: "I started a successful manufacturing business in Maine. That experience shows I have the ability to make things work in a difficult environment and the ability to help our economy grow. I was named "Most Bipartisan" member of the Maine legislature and have a proven record of building consensus solutions."

Goals:

- End the partisan gridlock and get Washington working again
- Take on opioids, health care, and job creation
- Advocate on Maine's behalf – not on behalf of a political party



Mark Holbrook

Current Job: Self Employed Businessman

Hometown: Brunswick, Maine

Website: Holbrook4ME.org

Republican Party Candidate

Candidate did not respond to requests for information.

★ U.S. Representative — 1st District

★ Candidates (continued)



Chellie Pingree

Current Job: U.S Congresswoman

Hometown: North Haven, Maine

Website: ChelliePingree.com

Statement: “I believe everyone who’s willing to work hard should have the opportunity to succeed. That means equipping our young people with a world-class education; ensuring we have an economy that works for everyone, not just those at the very top; and recognizing that access to high-quality affordable healthcare is a right.”

Democratic
Party Candidate

Experience: “As a farmer and small business owner, I understand how tough it is to balance a budget, provide good benefits to your employees and pay your taxes. And, I’ve drawn on those lessons during my time in Congress, working with anyone it takes to get the job done for Maine.”

Goals:

- Tackle healthcare & prescription drug prices; protect Medicare and Social Security
- Ensure our Veterans can access the benefits they’ve earned
- Resist the Trump Administration’s attempts to roll back critical rights and protections

★ U.S. Representative – 2nd District

Members of the House of Representatives write and pass laws for the United States. They share this job with Senators. Bills that raise money for any government program start in the House and must also be passed by the Senate. Members of the House are also called U.S. Congressmen or Congresswomen.

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 U.S. Representatives are elected in even-numbered years. Voters can elect Members of the House of Representatives for as many terms as they choose. U.S. Representatives must be at least 25 years of age. They must be citizens of the United States for at least seven years and living in Maine.

Term (years until next election): 2 years

Salary: \$174,000 a year

★ Candidates – 2nd District



Ranked Choice Ballot



Tiffany Bond

Current Job: Attorney (Family Law) and Mediator

Hometown: Portland, Maine

Website: Bond2018.com

Statement: "Federal law is the foundation our state laws rest upon. This is a critical job for which we need to send representatives that like the law, will read the law, will understand the law, and most critically will understand the impact of these laws on all of us."

Independent
Candidate

Experience: "Working in family law I cross paths with federal laws (taxes, healthcare, social security, etc) and work through those laws with people who do not get along well. I mediate outcomes that turn nonsense into common sense. Let's send someone who likes the job and can negotiate the toxic environment."

Goals:

- Focus on quality and effectiveness of federal law
- Expand rural broadband
- Incremental progress on healthcare legislation



Jared Golden

Current Job: House Assistant Majority Leader

Hometown: Lewiston, Maine

Website: JaredGoldenForCongress.com

Statement: "I'm from Lewiston and I joined the military after the 9/11 attacks. I was elected to the state legislature in 2014, where I've stood up for working Mainers and fought for issues like more access to healthcare and fair and equal pay. In Congress, I will always put Maine's people, not corporations or wealthy donors, first."

Democratic
Party Candidate

Experience: "In the Marines, serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, I learned what leadership is – it's putting those you lead or represent first. I worked for Senator Susan Collins as a professional staff member before being elected to the legislature. I work across the aisle, with my Republican colleagues and Governor LePage, to find common ground and get the job done for Mainers."

Goals:

- To build a fair economy with better wages and affordable health care for all of Maine's people
- To fix Maine's crumbling infrastructure
- To protect Social Security and Medicare

★ U.S. Representative – 2nd District

★ Candidates – 2nd District (continued)



William Hoar

Current Job: Special Education Teacher

Hometown: Southwest Harbor, Maine

Website: VoteHoar.com

Independent
Candidate

Candidate did not respond to requests for information.



Bruce Poliquin

Current Job: Member of Congress, Maine's 2nd District

Hometown: Oakland, Maine

Website: PoliquinForCongress.com

Republican Party
Candidate

Statement: "Growing up with a mother who had a successful career as a nurse and a father who was a public school teacher in Central Maine, I was raised in a household where healthcare and education were tremendously important. I raised my son as a single-dad with these principles in mind."

Experience: "With more than 30 years of experience creating jobs and operating small businesses, along with being the former Treasurer of Maine, I know what it takes to keep our economy moving in the right direction."

Goals:

- Continue to protect and grow jobs by fighting illegal trade and lowering taxes
- Protect Social Security and Medicare
- Continue to fight for Maine's Veterans as a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee

★ Citizen Initiatives / Bond Issues

★ What is a citizen initiative?

- Any Maine registered voter can start a citizen initiative, which is a proposed law.
- The voter must submit an application. It must include the full text of the proposed law.
- Once the application is approved, a petition form is created by the Secretary of State. The petition form must be signed by Maine voters.
- In 2018, the petition must have 61,123 valid signatures to be put on the ballot (10% of the total votes for governor in the 2014 election).
- Before the initiative is placed on the ballot, the Maine legislature has the chance to pass the proposed law.
- If the legislature does not pass the law, the initiative is placed on the ballot. Maine voters then vote for or against the proposed law.

★ What is a bond?

- The State of Maine borrows money by selling bonds.
- The State pays interest on the amount it borrows.
- The people must vote on the ballot to approve the bonds to be sold by the State of Maine.
- If the voters approve the bond, the Treasurer sells the bonds to fund the projects. These projects might include roads, bridges, schools, clean water, and research.
- The State pays back the amount it borrows plus interest within a fixed time (usually 10 years).

★ What is the financial impact of passing these bonds?

- If all of the bond questions pass this November, the total repayment on the bonds would be \$255 million over ten years. That's \$200 million in principal and \$55 million in interest.
- If all of the bond questions pass, repaying these and prior bonds would amount to about 2.8% of the State's total budget.
- The money to repay the bonds every year comes out of the State's General Fund and/or Highway Fund. These payments must be made.
- The projects funded by these bonds will generate an additional \$191 million in federal and private money that does not have to be repaid.

For more information about the Citizen Initiative and Bond Questions, go to the Citizen's Guide for the Referendum Election at: <https://maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming/>

★ Question 1: Citizen Initiative

Question:

“Do you want to create the Universal Home Care Program to provide home-based assistance to people with disabilities and senior citizens, regardless of income, funded by a new 3.8% tax on individuals and families with Maine wage and adjusted gross income above the amount subject to Social Security taxes, which is \$128,400 in 2018?”

★ What does this question mean?

This initiative provides long-term care and services to the elderly and disabled in their homes at no cost to them or their families. These services would be paid for by a tax of 3.8% on higher incomes that are currently exempt from the federal Social Security tax. The tax will only apply to incomes over \$128,400.



Arguments for **Yes**

- Maine has a very large elderly population, and it is important to look after them.
- The elderly and disabled should be able to remain at home with their loved ones when possible.
- Placing the tax on individual incomes over \$128,400 will only affect Mainers with higher incomes who can afford to pay a little more to help ensure better care for those in need.
- Universal home care would help make sure that homecare workers are paid decent wages and benefits.



Arguments for **No**

- Raising taxes on the top earners in the state could drive them out of state, harming the economy.
- The proposal may apply to tax household income of \$128,400 and higher, affecting some middle income families.
- The money raised for home care would be under the control of people who are not directly accountable to the public.
- People with higher incomes will be eligible for these home care benefits even though they could easily afford to pay.

★ Question 2: Wastewater Bond

Question:

“Do you favor a \$30,000,000 bond issue to improve water quality, support the planning and construction of wastewater treatment facilities and assist homeowners whose homes are served by substandard or malfunctioning wastewater treatment systems?”

★ What does this question mean?

The State of Maine would borrow \$30 million to improve water quality through wastewater treatment. The money would be divided, with \$27.6 million for local wastewater treatment facilities, \$2 million to replace broken septic systems that pollute coastal watersheds, and \$350,000 to assist homeowners in fixing septic tanks, cesspools, and other disposal systems.



Arguments for **Yes**

- Investing in wastewater treatment will provide better water quality for all.
- If the investment is delayed, it will cost more to fix it later.
- Homeowners do not have the ability to address wastewater quality problems themselves.
- Interest rates are low right now, which means that borrowing now will cost less than it might in the future.



Arguments for **No**

- Maine would add \$30 million to its debt.
- It will cost a total of \$38 million in principal and interest over 10 years to repay the money.
- These payments must be made. This may tend to increase taxes or make it harder to reduce taxes.
- Some believe our wastewater system does not need this investment.

★ Question 3: Transportation Bond

Question:

“Do you favor a \$106,000,000 bond issue, including \$101,000,000 for construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities and equipment related to ports, piers, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, to be used to match an estimated \$137,000,000 in federal and other funds, and \$5,000,000 for the upgrade of municipal culverts at stream crossings?”

★ What does this question mean?

The State of Maine would borrow \$106 million to improve and repair highways, bridges, harbors, ports, railroads, airports, bicycle and walking trails. If the bond passes, an additional \$142 million would come from the federal government and other sources.



Arguments for **Yes**

- It is important to invest in transportation infrastructure to have safe highways and bridges.
- This bond will lead to many new jobs in construction.
- A good transportation system is important to Maine's economy.
- The matching funds do not have to be repaid, so the bond is a good value for Maine.
- Interest rates are low right now, which means that borrowing now will cost less than it might in the future.



Arguments for **No**

- Maine would add \$106 million to its debt.
- It will cost a total of \$135 million in principal and interest over 10 years to repay the money.
- These payments must be made. This may tend to increase taxes or make it harder to reduce taxes.
- Some believe our transportation system does not need this investment.

★ Question 4: Universities Bond

Question:

“Do you favor a \$49,000,000 bond issue to be matched by at least \$49,000,000 in private and public funds to modernize and improve the facilities and infrastructure of Maine’s public universities in order to expand workforce development capacity and to attract and retain students to strengthen Maine’s economy and future workforce?”

★ What does this question mean?

The State of Maine would borrow \$49 million to upgrade buildings within the University of Maine System to expand the system’s ability to educate workers and attract and retain students. To get the money for this bond, another \$49 million needs to be raised from other public or private funds.



Arguments for **Yes**

- Investment in the universities is good for students and good for the economy.
- Modernizing the campuses makes the university more attractive and more competitive.
- A strong university leads to a higher quality of life and helps keep money and students from leaving the state.
- Interest rates are low right now, which means that borrowing now will cost less than it might in the future.
- The matching funds do not have to be repaid, so the bond is a good value for Maine.



Arguments for **No**

- Maine would add \$49 million to its debt.
- It will cost a total of \$62 million in principal and interest over 10 years to repay the money.
- These payments must be made. This may tend to increase taxes or make it harder to reduce taxes.
- Some believe the universities do not need this investment.

★ Question 5: Community Colleges Bond

Question:

“Do you favor a \$15,000,000 bond issue to improve educational programs by upgrading facilities at all 7 of Maine’s community colleges in order to provide Maine people with access to high-skill, low-cost technical and career education?”

★ What does this question mean?

The State of Maine would borrow \$15 million for the renovation and expansion of instructional laboratories, information technology, and heating and ventilating systems at Maine’s seven community colleges.



Arguments for **Yes**

- Students need better higher education opportunities in Maine. The community colleges are a good choice for many students.
- Investing in facilities now will save money in the long run.
- Better community college education leads to higher-skilled and better-paying jobs at a low cost.
- Interest rates are low right now, which means that borrowing now will cost less than it might in the future.



Arguments for **No**

- Maine would add \$15 million to its debt.
- It will cost a total of \$19 million in principal and interest over 10 years to repay the money.
- These payments must be made. This may tend to increase taxes or make it harder to reduce taxes.
- Some believe the community colleges do not need this investment.



The League of Women Voters of Maine Education Fund conducts voter service and citizen education activities. It is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, public policy educational organization that:

- Builds citizen participation in the democratic process.
- Studies key community issues at all government levels in an unbiased manner.
- Enables people to seek positive solutions to public policy issues through education and conflict management.

Donations to the LWVME Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) corporation, are tax-deductible where allowed by law.

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.

Donations to the League of Women Voters of Maine are not tax-deductible.

Join the League of Women Voters of Maine online at: lwvme.org/join.html

The League is not just for women! Anyone who supports the League's mission is welcome as a member.



[facebook.com/LWVME](https://www.facebook.com/LWVME)



[@LWVME](https://twitter.com/LWVME)



[@LWVME](https://www.instagram.com/LWVME)