

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

Dear Citizens of Gray:

Maine has a long tradition of civil participation in both state and local government, and I thank you for being informed and involved citizens.

My vision for Maine is prosperity, not poverty. For this reason, one of my top priorities is the reduction and eventual elimination of the income tax. Some are pushing to raise the minimum wage, but I want Mainers to earn a maximum wage. Reducing the income tax is the biggest and most immediate pay raise for all hard-working Mainers.

Not only does an income tax cut put more money back in your pockets, but it will also attract businesses that can offer good-paying careers to keep our young people here in Maine. It shows the nation that we are serious about wanting people and businesses to come—and stay—in Maine.

Another of my priorities is to lower the cost of student debt in Maine. If young people are struggling with too much student debt, they are unable to afford homes or vehicles. We are now offering programs to help them lower their debt, stay in Maine, begin their careers and start families.

To provide good-paying jobs for our young people, we must also work hard to reduce our energy costs. High energy costs are a major factor in driving out manufacturers, mills and other businesses that need low-cost electricity. I am committed to lowering the cost of energy, not only to attract job creators, but also to allow Maine people to heat and power their homes affordably and effectively.

And finally, we are making progress to address the drug pandemic in our state. It is my most important duty to keep the Maine people safe. While education, treatment and prevention efforts are important, we must get the dealers off the streets. I am pleased the Legislature has finally agreed to fund my proposal for more drug agents to stem the supply of deadly opiates flowing into our communities, but our law enforcement agencies are still understaffed. We must do more.

It is a pleasure serving as your Governor. If ever I can be of assistance to you or if you have any questions or suggestions, I encourage you to contact my office by calling 287-3531 or by visiting our website at www.maine.gov/governor.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage

Paul Relage

Governor

