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CONTACT: alex@dinnertableaction.com

Voter ID for ME Demands Accountability After Ballot Scandal

AUGUSTA, ME – The discovery of 250 apparently authentic State of Maine election ballots in a private Amazon package delivered to a Newburgh resident has raised urgent and troubling questions about the integrity of Maine’s elections. The incident, which points to a total collapse of ballot chain-of-custody under Secretary of State Shenna Bellows, underscores the urgent need for Voter ID in Maine.

“This is a stunning breach of election security that no free state can tolerate,” said Alex Titcomb, Voter ID for ME Campaign Manager. “Mainers deserve to know how many other ballots are unaccounted for, who is responsible, and whether our elections have already been compromised. This is an appalling breakdown in the chain of custody that makes it impossible for Mainers to have confidence in the integrity of our elections. This latest debacle proves beyond a doubt why Maine needs Voter ID. Without it, our elections remain wide open to abuse and fraud.”

Voter ID for ME is calling for Secretary Bellows’ resignation and demanding that the U.S. Department of Justice, under the leadership of Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon, launch an immediate investigation into how official ballots ended up in the hands of an unsuspecting Maine citizen rather than election officials.

“For years, Shenna Bellows has put partisanship and self-promotion ahead of her constitutional duty to safeguard Maine’s elections,” said Rep. Laurel Libby. “Elections are the very foundation of our democracy, and the mishandling of ballots under Shenna Bellows’ leadership is proof positive that Maine’s election system is broken. Now, under her watch, official ballots are turning up in random households through Amazon packages. Secretary Bellows must resign immediately.”

The ballot scandal in Newburgh highlights exactly why Maine must adopt commonsense safeguards like Voter ID, which are already in place in 36 states and nearly every European country. Voter ID ensures that every legitimate vote counts and that fraud and mishandling cannot undermine the will of the people.

As Maine voters prepare to decide Question One on the November 4 ballot, they are faced with a clear choice: continue with Shenna Bellows’ chaotic, unsecured elections - or adopt the commonsense protections of Voter ID to safeguard democracy for generations to come.

For more information, please contact Alex Titcomb at alex@dinnertableaction.com.