# **OFFICIAL BALLOT** – District 5

#### Maine Municipal Association's Legislative Policy Committee July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

### **VOTE FOR <u>TWO</u>**:

| Erica LaCroix, Town N | Ianager, Town of Farmington | 1                     | ( <i>write in</i> ) |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| (name)                | (position)                  | (municipality)        | _ ( write in)       |
|                       | Candidate Profiles Ar       | e On Reverse Side     |                     |
| UNICIPALITY:          |                             | DATE:                 |                     |
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## Return by 5:00 p.m., August 1, 2024 to:

Laura Ellis, Maine Municipal Association lellis@memun.org Fax: 624-0129

#### LPC Senate District 5

Anson Athens Bingham Brighton Plt. Cambridge Caratunk Carrabassett Valley Chesterville Cornville \*Dennistown Plt. Embden Farmington Harmony Hartland Highland Plt. Industry Jackman Kingfield Mercer Mosce River Moscow New Portland New Sharon New Vineyard Pleasant Ridge Plt. Ripley Rome Saint Albans Smithfield Solon Starks Strong The Forks Plt. Vienna Wilton West Forks Plt.

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### **Candidate Profile:**

Elaine Aloes has served as Chair of the Selectboard in the Town of Solon for three decades, and also served as assessor and overseer of the poor. She also has served on the Somerset County Budget Committee since 2000 and is the President of the Somerset County Municipal Association. Elaine has also served on MMA's Executive Committee from 2001-2003 and from 2017 to present, currently serving as president. Prior MMA service includes serving on the Strategic Planning Committee and on MMA's Workers Comp. and Property and Casualty Boards. She has served on the LPC since 2000, including a year as Chair. Ever the champion of rural towns, while serving on the LPC Elaine was appointed to a special rural/service center subcommittee. She would like to continue her service on the LPC to be a voice for the rural towns in Maine. She is concerned about the increasing policy, rules and regulations that the Legislature is enacting and the resulting impacts on the municipalities and citizens of Maine.

Elizabeth "Liz" Caruso has served as the chair of the selectboard in the Town of Caratunk for the past 19 years and has also served as registrar and deputy clerk when necessary. She served on MMA's Legislative Policy Committee in 2023-2024 and enjoyed discussing the legislative issues, how they affect areas of Maine differently, and how best to protect municipalities and the people they serve. Liz would like to serve again because she feels that the many small, rural municipalities need a bigger voice, and that the progressive erosion of local control has never been more concerning as in the past few years. She is concerned that the policies being forced upon local towns, planning boards, and taxpayers are overwhelming municipal offices, changing landscapes, reducing small business viability, causing constitutional violations, and negating townspeople's democratically enacted comprehensive plans and local town ordinances. She also feels that it's imperative that the Legislature recognizes how rural Maine operates differently than urban Maine, and that one size most certainly does not fit all.

Erica LaCroix has served as town manager in Farmington for the past six months and prior municipal and county experience dates back nearly 30 years, having served as manager in the Town of Winslow from 2020-2023, Chief of Administration at the Chesterfield County (VA) Sheriff's office from 2014-2018, and with the City of Lansing, MI public service department from 1995-2013, with the last 10 ears as senior administrator of operations and maintenance. Erica has also served on the professional development committee for the Maine Town, City and County Managers' Association. She would like to serve on the LPC because she is concerned that the trend in state government is eroding home rule and placing demands on local government that are unsustainable. She is interested in being a voice as part of a larger group that helps promote and protect municipal interests.