April 27, 2012

Employees of the State of Maine

Dear State Employees,

Many of you have heard reports from last night's town hall meeting in Newport. I wanted to write to ensure that the full meaning of my remarks were clear.

When my Administration came into office, we promised Maine people we would not settle for the status quo. The culture of state government needed to change from “no” to “can do!” Many of you have taken this to heart and are doing great things for the people of Maine. Make no mistake, I hear every day how much more customer friendly the State has become.

However, for whatever reason, some employees have not come on board. Roadblocks have been put up, hurdles have been thrown in the way, and information has not been passed up to senior management. Those employees want to keep doing the same thing because it was always done that way. Quite frankly, that attitude is unacceptable. In my opinion, it shows that they have been corrupted by the bureaucracy.

When the union bosses tell employees they should not participate in the Administration's initiatives and instead just “ride it out,” we are dealing with a lack of integrity. In other words, we are dealing with corruption.

If you are working hard for the people of Maine and following the leadership of your Commissioners, then keep up the good work - you know who you are. If you are dragging your feet because you do not like the direction the Administration is headed, then it is time to either get on board or get out of the way. State employees need to work together and follow the leadership of the Administration – that is your job and it is the right thing to do. We are all one team and we share one goal: make Maine better. Let’s keep working for it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor