13 April 2018

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1847, “An Act to Amend the State’s Electronic Waste Laws.”

This bill seeks to amend the State’s electronic waste laws in three ways:

- It updates how electronic device manufactures are billed for recycling costs because televisions no longer need to be counted separately from other electronics.
- It changes the due date for consumer electronic-device-manufacturer registration from July 1 to April 1.
- It makes changes to align Maine’s electronic waste program more closely with similar programs in other states.

While I am supportive of the streamlining and simplifying of electronic waste laws to bring Maine’s regulations into conformity with other states, changing just the regulations is not enough. Something must also be done to address the costs to Maine citizens and Maine businesses.

This bill does nothing to address fees being charged. To improve our business climate, every effort should be made to reduce fees charged to the Maine people and our companies, when the program is streamlined and made more efficient. This is the true purpose of good public policy.

For these reasons, I return LD 1847 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor