



City of Westbrook, Maine

City Hall

2 York Street

Westbrook, Maine 04092

August 26, 2016

An Open Letter to the People of Maine:

Once more Governor LePage has humiliated himself and the Office of the Governor. He continues to again embarrass the citizens of this wonderful State. Unfortunately, the current target of his inappropriate outbursts is Drew Gattine, a respected member and leader of our community, the City of Westbrook, and a highly respected member of the Maine State Legislature. Drew Gattine is what we want in a Maine leader. He is totally dedicated to helping others, has integrity and a strong ethical compass, is willing to lead with humor and humility, is articulate and is open to dialogue with those who disagree with him.

LePage's voicemail to Representative Gattine is so outrageous it is beyond our ability to know how to respond. Furthermore, his threat to want to "shoot him between the eyes" would be reprehensible coming from anybody, but from the individual holding the position of Governor of our State is insanity. Even in LePage's attempt today to take back these comments, he continues to bury himself deeper by making the incredulous statement that Gattine is protecting drug dealers. LePage seems to ascribe to a principle that he is always right and that anyone who disagrees is evil and ought to be destroyed.

We are proud to call Rep. Drew Gattine one of our own. He is a seasoned health care executive and nationally known expert on combating health care fraud and abuse and a former Assistant Attorney General for the State of Maine. He is House Chair of the Human Services Committee and a proud member of the Maine Children's Trust, a group that fights child abuse and neglect. He was named a 2015 Legislative Hero to Maine Seniors by the Maine Council on Aging and honored for his work on behalf of community health centers. He served three terms as a Westbrook City Councilor chairing various committees and commissions. While engaging in this service he has brought honor to our City and State.

We stand with Drew Gattine and condemn LePage for yet another outrage perpetrated this time on a respected member of our community.

Sincerely,

Colleen Hilton, Mayor
City of Westbrook

Brendan Rielly, Council President
Westbrook City Council

James Violette, Chair
Westbrook School Committee