

## Jeff Timberlake

### Maine House District 75



#### Summary

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##### [Official Legislative Biography](#)

*Jeff Timberlake is the State Representative for House District 75, which includes Minot and Turner, Leeds and part of Livermore. He lives in Turner with his spouse of 37 years, Joline. They have one child and two grandchildren.*

*Rep. Timberlake will serve his second consecutive term on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee in the 128th Legislature. He served on the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee for the 125th Legislature.*

*Rep. Timberlake is the current owner of Ricker Hill Orchards. This is an eighth generation family farm that is one of the largest apple farms in New England. He also manages about 2000 acres of forest land. Rep. Timberlake owns Northland TrueValue and Northland Holder Inc., which is an equipment company that covers Me., Vt. and N.H.*

*Rep. Timberlake is a graduate of Leavitt Area High School and CMMC in Auburn where he specialized in Automotive Technology and Diesel Mechanics and an Associate Degree in Business Management.*

*Rep. Timberlake has been a Fireman in Turner for thirty five years. He is also been on the Planning Board for sixteen years. He has also been the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen*

for two years. He is a member of the Kora Shrine, Nezinscot Lodge and the Turner Ridge Riders. Rep. Timberlake represents School District SAD 52.

He lists his personal interests include golfing, fishing and hunting. He also enjoys snowmobiling and flying as he has been a pilot for thirty years. His greatest enjoyment comes from RVing with his wife and grandchildren as he loves seeing Maine and the rest of this great country.

#### ALEC membership/ties

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- [Signed ALEC 2017 letter to speaker Ryan & Leader McConnell supporting AHCA](#)

#### ALEC model legislation authored/sponsored

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Bill Title/Number	ALEC Model Bill	Sponsored/Authorred
LD 1333 (2011)	High Risk Health Insurance Pool Model Act	Voted <a href="#">Yea</a>
LD 950 (2011)	Health Care Sharing Ministries Freedom to Share Act	Voted <a href="#">Yea</a>
LD 1553 (2011)	Charter Schools Act; Next Generation Charter Schools Act	Voted <a href="#">Yea</a>
LD 1092 (2011)	Family Education Tax Credit Program Act; Family Education Savings Account Act	Voted <a href="#">Yea</a>
LD 250 (2011)	Family Education Tax Credit Program Act; Family Education Savings Account Act	Voted in favor of bill <a href="#">LD 250</a>
LD 199 (2011)	Voter ID Act	<a href="#">Cosponsored</a> and Voted <a href="#">Yea</a>
LD 1066 (2013)	Resolution Opposing PPACA Medicaid Expansion	Voted <a href="#">Nay</a>
LD 1487 (2014)	Resolution Opposing PPACA Medicaid Expansion	Voted <a href="#">Nay</a>
LD 65 (2017)	Right to Work Act	Voted in favor of bill <a href="#">LD 65</a>
LD 66 (2017)	Public Employer Payroll Deduction Policy Act	Voted in favor of bill <a href="#">LD 66</a>

- **In 2011, Representative Jeff Timberlake voted in favor of a high risk insurance bill, that would raise premiums for many rural communities in Maine.** Representative Jeff Timberlake voted for LD 1333 which would make the following changes to Maine’s Health Insurance System: Increase the cost between the lowest- and highest-risk policyholders; create a “reinsurance” or high-risk pool for people who have chronic illnesses; pay for the pool by a \$4 assessment added to the monthly payment of every policyholder in the state; and allow Maine-registered insurance companies to sell coverage from every New England state except Vermont. [Seacoast Online,

[5/15/2011](#); LD 1333, Bill Passed in Maine House, 78-68, [5/12/2011](#); Bill Passed in Maine Senate, 27-1, [5/12/2011](#)]

- **In 2011, Representative Jeff Timberlake voted in favor of a bill to exempt exclusive cooperative and religious health networks from the requirements of the Affordable Care Act.** Representative Jeff Timberlake voted for LD 950, which allows religious ministries to be exempt from insurance requirements. The regulatory status of these plans has been controversial. Some insurance regulators argue that in substantive ways these programs look and act like insurance—but with none of the legally prescribed safeguards against rip-offs and nasty surprises when medical bills reach catastrophic proportions. The ministry programs incorporate key elements of health insurance, including deductibles, annual or per-incident dollar limits on coverage, and major exclusions for things like mental health care, prescriptions, and pre-existing conditions. [Consumer Reports, [6/11/2011](#); LD 950, Bill Passed in Maine House, 78-65, [5/18/2011](#)]
- **In 2011, Representative Jeff Timberlake voted in favor of bill LD 1553 to allow state support and creation of charter schools.** Representative Jeff Timberlake voted for LD 1553, which created Maine’s charter schools and allowed the state to give financial support to the schools. According to Bangor News, opponents of the bill suggest that the alternative schools could siphon much-needed money or the best and brightest students from traditional schools. Among the most vocal critics was Sen. Justin Alford, a Portland Democrat and former co-chairman of the Legislature’s Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. Alford said Maine is already underfunding its K-12 schools to the tune of \$400 million over the next two years based on the funding formula approved by voters. Now, taxpayer dollars will have to flow toward new charter schools at a time when many traditional schools in Maine already are working hard with inadequate resources to innovate classroom education. [Bangor Daily News, [6/28/2011](#); LD 1553, Bill Passed in Maine House, 88-51, [6/28/2011](#)]
- **In 2011, Representative Jeff Timberlake voted for bill that would take money away from public schools and give it to private schools. Representative Jeff Timberlake voted for LD 1092 and LD 250,** which would divert taxpayer money from public to private schools. The bills model ALEC’s Family Education Savings Account Act, which creates a “a financial incentive for people to take their children out of public schools and support private for-profit, religious, and other primary or secondary schools [Dirigo Blue [4/12/12](#); [Center for Media and Democracy](#); [LD 1092, Failed to pass Senate 6/1/2011](#); [LD 250, Failed to pass Senate, 6/2/2011](#)]
- **In 2011, Representative Jeff Timberlake cosponsored and voted in favor of bill to require photo identification for voting.** Representative Jeff Timberlake cosponsored and voted for LD 199, which required a voter to present photo ID in order to be allowed to vote. According to Bangor Daily News, the bill sought to require voters to show photo identification on Election Day. Senate Democrats denounced the legislation as potentially disenfranchising to voters and expensive to municipalities. “Requiring a voter ID is going to be costly and it’s going to be a burdensome solution to a problem I don’t believe exists,” said Sen. Justin Alford, D-Portland,

adding that seniors, the disabled and young people would be disproportionately hurt if LD 199 passed. "People simply do not impersonate other people in order to vote. When they do, they are caught. Sen. Nichi Farnham, R-Bangor, however, said the bill is common sense and added that Mainers already show a photo ID for things that are not nearly as important as voting. [Bangor Daily News, [6/13/2011](#); LD 199, Bill passed in Maine House, 75-69, [6/6/2011](#); LD 199, Bill Passed in special session when Maine Senate failed to postpone indefinitely, 16-17, [3/13/2012](#)]

- **In 2013, Representative Jeff Timberlake supported Governor LePage's veto by voting against a bill, LD 1066, that would have expanded Medicaid in Maine.** LD 1066 would provide health care coverage to an estimated 60,000 low-income parents and to adults without children who are not now eligible for the program. The Medicaid expansion proposal included a voluntary expansion of the program through the federal Affordable Care Act. Voting against this bill follows the ALEC website resolution: "[Opposing PPACA Medicaid Expansion](#)" Since 2014, Medicaid has been expanded by voters in Maine and Governor LePage still opposes the [expansion](#). [Press Herald, [5/15/2013](#); LD 1066, Veto sustained in Maine Senate, 23-12, [6/17/2013](#)]
- **In 2014, Representative Jeff Timberlake supported Governor LePage's veto by voting against a bill, LD 1487, that would have expanded Medicaid in Maine.** Representative Jeff Timberlake voted to uphold the veto of) LD 1487 which would have expanded Medicaid coverage to roughly 70,000 low-income Mainers and dramatically overhaul the administration of the program by outsourcing it to managed care organizations. A provision of the federal Affordable Care Act, sometimes referred to as Obamacare, allows the states to expand Medicaid, known here as MaineCare, to every resident who makes less than 138 percent of the federal poverty level, or just under \$16,000 per year for a childless, single adult. Voting against this bill follows the ALEC website resolution: "[Opposing PPACA Medicaid Expansion](#)". Since 2014, Medicaid has been expanded by voters in Maine and Governor LePage still opposes the [expansion](#). [Bangor Daily News, [4/9/2014](#)], LD 1487, Veto sustained in Maine Senate, 22-13, [3/19/2014](#)]
- **In 2017, Representative Jeff Timberlake voted for a so-called "Right to Work" bill.** Representative Jeff Timberlake voted for LD 65, a "Right to Work" bill that seeks to allow workers to opt out of paying union dues and to bar public employers from deducting union fees, respectively. Making Maine a "right to work" state — where workers can opt out of being represented by unions and paying dues — has long been a goal of Republicans and especially Gov. Paul LePage, who sees unions as a detriment to the economy and who has said failure to abolish them is one of the chief regrets of his time as governor. The bill drew a lot of opposition from union members, who said the real aim of the legislation is to break up unions. "Because we stand together as a union and negotiate our contract, for the first time in my adult life, I have health insurance for my family, a future with being able to retire, a decent raise with working 40 hours a week," said Josh Hartford, a union member from Canaan. While this bill, LD 65, was defeated, it is one of many other so-called "right to work" bills, such as LD 788, that have failed in previous Maine legislatures. (Bangor Daily News, [6/12/2017](#); Maine Public [5/8/2017](#); LD 65, Bill Passed in Maine House, 82-64, [6/15/2017](#); Bill failed in Maine Senate 10-23, [6/29/2017](#)]

- **In 2017, Representative Jeff Timberlake supported a bill banning public employees from paying their union dues through a payroll deduction.** Representative Jeff Timberlake voted ye in committee for LD 66, a proposal that would have forbid union members from paying dues in a 21st century manner – through payroll deduction. While this proposal was defeated in committee, it was one of at least three Republican-sponsored bills in 2017 that sought to erode representation of workers’ rights by labor unions. [Bangor Daily News, [6/12/2017](#); Maine AFL-CIO, [2017](#); [LD 66, Senate Roll Call 336, Failed 6/19/2017](#)]

## Other Hits

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**Representative Jeff Timberlake wants to lower the minimum wage for people under 20.** According to Bangor Daily News, Representative Jeff Timberlake would set an hourly minimum at \$8.25 for people age 20 and younger. Representative Timberlake stated, “there’s not going to be any kids working” unless the Legislature sets a training wage for younger workers. There is little Democratic support for bills that seek to implement a lower training wage or pay minors less than other workers. [Bangor Daily News, [4/5/17](#); [LD 991, Failed 6/15/2017](#)]

**Representative Jeff Timberlake is a Trump Supporter.** According to Bangor Daily News, Representative Jeff Timberlake hosted Erica and Laura Trump at his apple orchard when they visited Maine in October last year. Also, Representative Timberlake attended Donald Trump’s event when he visited Maine in August of 2015. [Bangor Daily News, [10/5/16](#)]

**Representative Jeff Timberlake opposed fixing an error that zeroed out Maine’s Clean Election Fund.** In June of 2018, Maine’s Clean Election Fund was going to unable to pay out money to candidates eligible for funding because of a typographical error. Rep. Jeff Timberlake was opposed to fixing it, saying, “Our caucus has never been a big proponent of Clean Elections (funding) and I still don’t think we’re a big proponent of Clean Election.” [Portland Press-Herald, [6/26/08](#)]