

Offer No Blank Check

Maine has not bound itself to the government procurement rules in CAFTA and Governor Baldacci is to be applauded for this action.

“Government procurement” includes those goods and services that the state purchases and which are regulated by state policies in place which seek to protect the environment, promote labor rights, support local business and support local economic development(recycled paper products, clean-clothes apparel are examples.) Trade agreements put these policies at risk.

I ask that this procurement issue be placed squarely on the Commissions agenda and ask the Commission to investigate what is at stake for Maine if we commit to government procurement deals in new trade agreements.

*M. Spill*

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