

127th Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 34

Senator Ron Collins
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-4884

October 25, 2016

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
Office of the Senate President
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

In light of recent allegations made towards me regarding legislative travel reimbursements, I request that a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Conduct and Ethics be promptly convened.

Throughout my life, including my tenure in public service, I have prided myself on upholding the highest ideals of integrity and ethics. I am deeply troubled by the accusations that have been directed towards me and urge this bipartisan committee to review the facts. As I have always endeavored to follow state and legislative rules, even reaching out to the Maine Ethics Commission for guidance, I am confident the committee will find no wrongdoing and will see these allegations for what they are: election year mudslinging.

As you are aware, I am a sitting member of the Senate Standing Committee on Conduct and Ethics. Should you decide to convene the committee, I would recuse myself as a committee member from all discussions and votes on this matter.

Mr. President, these allegations are troubling and the timing is suspect. I hope you will give my request to convene the committee as soon as possible your full consideration.

Sincerely,



Ronald F. Collins
State Senator

127th Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 10

Senator Andre E. Cushing, III
Assistant Majority Leader
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-1505

Joint Standing Committee:
Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development

Select Committees:
Joint Rules
Senate Rules
Senatorial Vote

October 25, 2016

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
Office of the Senate President
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I am writing to request you call the Senate Standing Committee on Conduct and Ethics in for a meeting to discuss the allegations regarding my use of legislative travel reimbursements.

The claims that have been made are troubling, and I take them very seriously. I believe the interests of the public would be best served with this legislative committee coming together to have a full and fair discussion about the facts related to these allegations. I would welcome the opportunity to address any concerns or questions the committee may have.

Mr. President, I take full responsibility for my actions, but I do not feel I have violated any state or legislative rules as to how I have made use of travel reimbursements. I am confident the committee will come to the same conclusion.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Andre E. Cushing, III
Assistant Majority Leader