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LD 3

Hello,

I'm writing regarding LD3- An Act to Establish Winter Energy Relief Payment Program to Aid Residents with High Heating Costs and to Finalize the COVID Pandemic Relief Payment Program. Please support reconsidering LD1 Emergency Funding for Housing BEFORE the holiday break.

Before moving to Brunswick, I lived in areas of Portland close to where a lot of unhoused neighbors camped outside or busked for change. I had people store belongings below my windows and camp in my backyard and it was never a problem. In fact my unhoused neighbors were often more friendly and conscientious than I've seen in other areas of the city. These folks were struggling, and I was horrified to learn in 2021 when Joy Cyr froze to death around the block from my apartment.

I believe that we all have a responsibility to care for the most vulnerable members of our communities, locally and especially in state government. The individuals and families who will be displaced in the next few weeks don't have time to wait. The incredible work of nonprofits like Maine Needs can only go so far. Please support LD1 and any efforts to direct government assistance to people who desperately need assistance.

Thank you