

Dan Davis  
Porter  
LD 510

Senator Baldacci, Rep Meyer, and members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

I fully support LD510, as it is competent and reasonable legislation to update a 15 year old law.

In 2007 when this law was created, we had not yet experienced the housing crash, a 2-year pandemic, and the years and years of increasing inflows of opioids that we have today.

Communities are increasingly struggling with being the first-responders to the mental health, drug, and homelessness epidemics, and need more options.

This provides support for an underutilized but critically needed service in these communities, to bridge between the state, law enforcement, code enforcement, town officials, and residents.

I've found over the years that during the administration and enforcement of land use/codes, CEO's are increasingly the unintended frontline first responders to the accelerating drug, mental health, and homelessness crisis here in the State. It is becoming increasingly dangerous and time-consuming, and the State affords little support to communities regarding these socio-economic challenges. Our only tool is financial and punitive (30-A section 4452), to address problems where there is no money to be found, money won't solve the underlying issues, and where other social service intervention is needed.

I urge the Committee to support LD510 to allow communities to expand the LHO support in their towns, as needed.

Thank you,

Dan Davis - Porter