

Hannah Lindstrom

Orono

LD 2

Senator Pierce and Representative Gere, and honorable members of the Joint Select Committee on Housing:

My name is Hannah Lindstrom and I am a social work student at The University of Maine, Orono. Ever since coming to college in Maine I have always wanted to move to Portland, Maine after graduation. However, my plans have not been able to align with my hopes/wishes. The cost of renting an apartment is outrageously expensive for someone with a Bachelor's degree in social work. Luckily, I am able to move back in with my mother in Massachusetts. However, this does mean that unfortunately I will have to leave the state of Maine and Maine will also lose a brand new social worker which is a much needed position here.

This makes me so afraid for people from marginalized/ vulnerable communities. People who do not have family/friends to fall back on. This bill has the ability to change lives. LD2 could save lives. When you drive through cities in the state of Maine you will most likely run into multiple unhoused people just on that one drive. This is really sad and very scary considering the harsh weather that the residents of Maine have to endure.

I strongly urge you to vote "Yes" on LD 2. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Lindstrom

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