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LD 214

Please support LD 214, “An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Zoning and Land Use Restrictions to Limit Certain Requirements to Municipalities with a Population of More than 10,000.” This bill, sponsored by Representative Richard Campbell, is in response to LD 2003, a federally sponsored and big lobbyist promoted “Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions.” This bill, foisted onto the state of Maine in the last session, is totally inappropriate for our state. Sponsor Senator Fecteau characterized LD 2003 as merely providing “a frame” for the varied patchwork quilt of our local municipal zoning ordinances. In reality it is a straightjacket that imposes a one-size-fits-all, Washington based mandate on Maine municipalities. There may be some justification for such a mandate in high density crowded metropolitan settings, but Maine is not Jersey City, Baltimore, or Westchester County, New York. The quest for affordable housing is no reason to transplant supposed cures for urban blight onto rural Maine. Please vote for LD 214 to temper the local effects of LD 2003 on Maine municipalities.

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