



Testimony of Kyle Drexler, Orono Town Planner

In opposition to

**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**

April 11, 2023

Senator Pierce, Representative Gere and members of the Joint Select Committee on Housing, my name is Kyle Drexler, and I am the Town Planner for the Town of Orono. On behalf of the Orono Planning Department, we are in opposition to LD 214. LD 214 would allow smaller communities to maintain more limited housing opportunities, and therefore, be less equitable overall. By limiting housing opportunities in these types of communities, it will also put a greater burden on those communities with a population over 10,000, as people looking to find different types of housing will have to go to these larger communities. Instead of limiting more equitable housing options in these smaller communities, the same requirements to enable growth and diverse housing should apply. This will give people in Maine a wider range of options when deciding where to live. If smaller communities simply need more resources or time to implement these types of zoning and land use changes, then that should certainly be explored. However, that should not be a reason to limit housing supply and prevent growth in these communities.

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