

Elizabeth Fertig-Burd  
Celebration Tree Farm & Wellness Center, LLC  
LD 1276

Dear Members of the Taxation Committee,  
I am submitting testimony on behalf of Celebration Tree Farm & Wellness Center, LLC. We are a cooperative Christmas tree farm and wellness center in Durham. We converted to a cooperative from a sole proprietorship and worked with Land in Common Community Land Trust to purchase 110 acres of land where we currently have our tree farm. We utilize ecological forestry practices that work to sequester carbon and increase forest biodiversity. We are in support of LD 1276 because we see how this legislation could have been helpful for us when we purchased our farm and business and we see how this legislation can help secure more farms, housing, and businesses for the future of Maine. Cooperatives can help build community wealth, good jobs, and secure affordable housing for our neighbors. LD 1276 will help more people in Maine to have agency, ownership, and security.