



MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
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AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

KIRK F. MOHNEY  
DIRECTOR

April 26, 2023

Sen. Margaret Rotundo, Chair  
Rep. Melanie Sachs, Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs  
Attn: Justin Purvis, Clerk  
c/o Office of Fiscal and Program Review  
State House Station 5  
Augusta, ME 04333-0005

Re: LD 1163

Dear Sen. Rotundo and Rep. Sachs:

I am writing to provide testimony neither for nor against LD 1163.

In 1999 the Legislature established the New Century Community Program under the auspices of the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council. The program's objectives include preserving the State's historic resources, properties, artifacts and documents; expanding access to improved educational resources; and community and economic development through strengthened local cultural resources, including through increased community access to the State's leading cultural institutions.

General fund appropriations of \$3.2 million dollars (FY 2000), \$500,000 (FY 2001-02), and \$530,000 (FY 2002-03) were subsequently made to support the program. These appropriations were followed by bond issues of \$1 million dollars in 2005 and \$2 million dollars in 2007. In recent years, the New Century Program has been funded with an annual appropriation of about \$40,000 (which is divided equally among the seven member agencies and organizations that comprise the Council). The Maine Historic Preservation Commission's share of the General Fund appropriations and bonds was used for preservation grants.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you and the Committee with this overview of State funding for the preservation and restoration of historic properties in Maine.

Sincerely,

Kirk F. Mohney  
Director  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission