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Portland, Me
LD 1163

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I am writing to strongly advocate for passage of bonds LD 912 and LD1163 currently being discussed in committee. I have been among Maine's cultural leaders for over 40 years as the former director of the Bates Dance Festival and current Board Vice President of Bearnstow, a non-profit arts camp in Mount Vernon, ME that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Maine's arts and cultural assets are many, varied and tremendously important to our economic vitality, our ability to attract visitors from across the globe and young creative talent to keep our work force and community vibrant and growing.

As a vital and highly diversified sector of our state infrastructure, investing in the preservation and expansion of our arts and cultural assets is one of the wisest investments we can make to insure our continued vitality. As crucial as our commitment to climate initiatives, food and housing solutions, and other critical issues facing our state, securing out cultural assets will help guaranty a bright future.

I have personally witnessed the economic and artistic impact of attracting hundreds of performing artists to Maine each summer to study, perform and create new work that left it's mark on Maine audiences. I urge you to advance these bonds and enhance our proud Maine artistic treasures.

Sincerely,
Laura Faure