



**Alison Sucy, Chief Operating Officer & Director of Government Affairs
On Behalf of the Maine Tourism Association**

In SUPPORT of

***LD 1733, An Act to Require the Revenue Forecasting Committee to Prepare Economic Impact
Statements for Certain Legislation***

May 2, 2023

Senator Rotundo, Representative Sachs, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on
Appropriations and Financial Affairs:

My name is Alison Sucy, and I am the Chief Operating Officer and Director of Government Affairs for the Maine Tourism Association. The Maine Tourism Association is the state's largest advocate for all tourism-related businesses. Incorporated in 1922, MTA's 1500 members includes lodging, restaurants, camps, campgrounds, retail, outdoor recreation, guides, tour operators, amusements, and cultural and historical attractions. I present this testimony in support of LD 1733.

This bill would provide a method to measure the impact of the Department of Economic and Community Development's 10-year Economic Development Strategy for Maine by requiring an economic impact statement for any legislation that creates a new workforce program or amends employment, labor, or taxation laws. The economic impact statement would have to provide "a detailed description of the extent to which the proposed legislation conforms with the actions, goals, and strategies outlined in the State's 10-year strategic economic development plan."

LD 1733 would provide one method of measuring the impact of the Economic Development Strategy by requiring an economic impact statement that tracks the strategic plan for any legislation that creates a new workforce program or amends employment, labor, or taxation laws. As you know, the way the legislature and committees function leaves legislators with little option but to only look at bills in isolation and not in terms of a long-term economic development strategy or how they might enhance or detract from its goals.

MTA works closely with the Department of Economic and Community Development, and we appreciate all of the hard work being done by Commissioner Johnson and her team. We hope to contribute to and enhance that work outlined by DECD and being carried out by all state departments; and we believe that this bill can help with that goal.

I respectfully ask to you to support LD 1733. Thank you for your time and consideration.