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Testimony in Support of LD 1752 (“Resolve, to Prepare Preapproved Building Types”)

J. Andrew Cashman on behalf of the Maine Association of REALTORS®

May 9, 2023

Senator Pierce, Representative Gere and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Housing, my name is Andy Cashman. I am the Founder of Resolve Government Relations. We represent the Maine Association of REALTORS®, a professional trade association established in 1936 with over 6,500 members statewide. REALTORS® grow Maine’s economy and build Maine communities. Our members represent buyers and sellers involved in both residential and commercial real estate transactions. Our membership also includes industry affiliates, such as lenders, closing agents, title agents, appraisers, building inspectors, surveyors, etc. The Maine Association is chartered by the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), the largest trade association in the country.

The Maine Association of REALTORS® supports LD 1752. The bill would direct the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning, to work with a consultant to develop a set of building types that municipalities could adopt as preapproved buildings to help reduce the cost and time associated with building permits. The bill would add more housing supply options statewide by shortening the timeframe of building, from permitting through completed construction. The bill would reduce potential costs with standard designs that can be pre-approved for fast-track development. This is a commonsense approach to adding more options for housing units, which will help increase Maine’s needed housing inventory.

For these reasons, we support LD 1752 and respectfully urge you to vote Ought To Pass. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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