



19 Community Drive • Augusta, Maine 04330 • (207) 622-7501 • Fax: (207) 623-3590

Testimony in Support of LD 1810 (“An Act to Expand the Maine Historic Rehabilitation Credit and Establish a Weatherization Tax Credit”)

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

May 9, 2023

Senator Grohoski, Representative Perry and members of the Joint Select Committee on Taxation, 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 1810 because it would expand the scope of the historic rehabilitation tax credit and create additional credits for rehabilitation and weatherization of historic homes. Maine has some of the oldest housing stock in the country, some of which are historic and need significant updates to make them livable and accessible to home buyers. Another concern with historic homes is their lack of modern energy efficiencies causing many to be expensive and uneconomical to operate. In order to address the affordable housing shortage, we must not only build new homes and repurpose other structures – but we must also bring the old unused housing back into service through rehabilitation and weatherization. Making these properties livable and more affordable would provide additional housing supply while also preserving the integrity of Maine’s historic homes.

For these reasons, we support LD 1810 and respectfully urge you to vote Ought to Pass. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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