



Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network

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Testimony in support of LD 1844 -- An Act to Support Emergency Facility Construction, Renovation and Acquisition by Creating a Matching Grant Program

Senator Pierce, Representative Gere and Members of the Housing Committee

My name is Lynn Ellis and I live in Brunswick. I submit this testimony on behalf of the Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN) which connects the 26 UU congregations of Maine in social justice and faith advocacy. Our guiding principles include affirming the inherent worth and dignity of every person and seeks justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

The community of Brunswick and surrounding towns is served by Tedford Housing. In recent years, the housing crisis and lack of affordable housing increases the need for emergency shelter. The need is far greater than what is available in beds. More capacity is desperately needed. A 64-bed facility is underway and money has been raised. However, the new building is costing far more than was initially expected. LD 1844 could substantially assist in completing this facility and provide additional shelter beds that will help assist more people.

MUUSAN urges the members of this Committee to vote Ought to Pass on LD 1844,

Lynn Ellis, HealthCare chair

MUUSAN