



60 Community Drive | Augusta, ME 04330-9486
1-800-452-8786 (in state) | (t) 207-623-8428
(f) 207-624-0129

Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

In Support of,

LD 2135, Resolve, to Investigate and Address Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Services Issues

January 24, 2024

Senator Brenner, Representative Gramlich and distinguished members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Amanda Campbell, and I am submitting testimony in support of LD 2135 on behalf of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA), and the 70-member Legislative Policy Committee, who were elected by their colleagues and peers to determine MMA's position on bills of municipal interest.

LD 2135 directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services (DAFS) and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to investigate critical municipal solid waste disposal issues facing a select number of Maine communities. Municipal leaders acknowledge the recent work done by DEP as demonstrated by the published Maine Materials Management Plan which includes the 2024 State Waste Management and Recycling Plan Update and 2022 Waste Generation and Disposal Capacity Report. This plan, coupled with the many additional ongoing studies and currently available data to review, provides a framework for the long-term planning the department has done, and is doing, for solid waste disposal statewide. The missing piece of the framework is a short-term plan for municipal solid waste disposal for the 159 communities identified in this bill. Local officials fully support the task of identifying these short-term solutions so that the impacted communities may feel confident, responsible, and positive about the choices they are making, with seemingly limited options, regarding their solid waste disposal.

Thank you for your consideration of this position.

If you have any questions regarding MMA's position on this bill, or other bills with municipal impact, please contact me at acampbell@memun.org