

TOWN OF
Mechanic Falls
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February 2, 2024

Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
5 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Committee,

Senator Rotundo, Representative Sachs, and members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, my name is Victor Hodgkins, and I am the Town Manager of Mechanic Falls. I write this letter as my testimony in favor of LD 646.

Mechanic Falls, like all municipalities relies on the full payment of property taxes each year to fund the citizen approved budget for the given fiscal year through the annual tax commitment. When a tax commitment is created, the math assumes that everyone will indeed pay their tax bill. With the Tax Stabilization Program, the State said to municipalities that we will cover the difference in the tax commitment.

As you know, recently the Maine Revenue Service sent municipalities a portion of what was owed. If the outstanding balance is not paid by the State, our town will be short that amount of money from the tax commitment... this shortfall in revenue could mean great harm to the current fiscal year.

I encourage your committee, the legislature, and the Governor, to honor the commitment made to the citizens of all municipalities and approve LD 646.

Thank you for your consideration.

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