

Dear Senator Rotundo, Representative Sachs, and members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and Senator Carney and Representative Moonen and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Terence Miller, and I am the Advocacy Director at Preble Street. I am writing to request the AFA and Judiciary committee members support to make the one-time \$4 million in 2023-24 funding a baseline increase starting in 2024-2025. At Preble Street, our mission is to provide accessible barrier-free services to empower people experiencing problems with homelessness, housing, hunger, and poverty, and to advocate for solutions to these problems. Preble Street is concerned about the unintended consequences of Part II of LD 2214 if enacted as written.

At Preble Street our clients and community are facing the ongoing challenges caused by housing instability, food insecurity, and deep poverty. Our clients face a myriad of civil legal problems and issues daily. Gratefully, the Maine Homeless Law Project is staffed on a rotating basis by the Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project, one of the seven civil legal aid providers in Maine, identifies volunteer law firms that provide critical legal advice and assistance to individuals, youth, and families facing denial of benefits, discrimination in housing, education, and employment, family law issues, and domestic abuse.

On behalf of Preble Street, I ask that you please vote in opposition of LD 2214 Part II as it is currently written, in favor of an amended version that allows for exemptions to the proposed changes.

Thank you.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terry Sutton

*President*

Chip Leighton

*Vice President*

Yemaya St. Clair

*Secretary*

Jennifer Wilson

*Treasurer*

Joann Bautista

Terry Davies

Lauren Gauthier

John Roberts

Elaine Rosen

Kini Schoop

Maurice A. Selinger III

Jay Tansey

Lannie Welch

55 Portland Street

Portland, ME 04101

207.775.0026

[info@preblestreet.org](mailto:info@preblestreet.org)



United Way  
of Southern Maine



Meeting urgent needs • Empowering people • Advocating for change • Creating solutions to  
homelessness and hunger

