

Delene Perley
Portland
LD 698

Senator Curry, Representative Gere, and members of the Housing and Economic Development Committee,

My name is Delene Perley, and I live in Portland.

I'm writing to support LD 698: An Act to Sustain Emergency Homeless Shelters in Maine.

As you well know Portland is struggling to provide for the unhoused residents in our city. It pains me to see people out on the street in all sorts of weather pushing carts and carting bags. Surely that is not their choice. We need places for people to stay and even better, actually live. Short of actually housing we have some shelters. As a resident of the city I pay to support those places with my taxes.

The state's support of these shelters has not kept pace with the cost, however. This bill will increase that support and help the people who need the shelter as well as the citizens of the state who live here. Support LD 698.

I am a member of the Maine UU state Advocacy Network, a group of Unitarian Universalists around the state, supporting those who need extra help. The Golden Rule certainly applies here.

Thank you.