

Lucas StClair  
Falmouth  
LD 1089

Good morning Sen. Grohoski and Rep. Cloutier and members of the Taxation Committee,

My name is Lucas St.Clair and I am writing to testify in support of two tax fairness priority bills, LD 1089 and LD 1047.

I grew up in Northern Piscataquis county which is one of the oldest and poorest counties in Maine. It is one of the most beautiful places I know and one major barrier that is keeping people from living here in opportunity.

I strongly believe that taxation inequity is a primary factor enabling poverty and keeping our low income and working class communities stuck. Poverty is a policy issue. The two bills before you today offer an opportunity to course-correct policy in a way that will allow people living in poverty and hardworking Maine people to experience more fairness and opportunity.

My family is very wealthy and we would be required to pay more in taxes if these bills pass. I also work full time and, along with my wife, are raising two young kids here in Maine. We care about the future of this state. The inequitable tax structure of today, may be perceived to benefit my family and me. What is really true is that this unfair tax undermines the overall health of our communities. The wealthy should pay our fair share in taxes. Period. Fairness is what motivates me and what I think has the opportunity to lift all Mainers to a more prosperous and equitable place.

Fair tax policies allow more money to stay in communities, ensuring greater investment in public schools, infrastructure, and services like child care and health care. Other states have created similar policy to what is proposed today, and these policies are working, without hurting job growth or small businesses.

Please vote Ought To Pass on LD 1089 and LD 1047 and make Maine's Tax Structure fairer.

Thank you.