

April 1, 2025

Dear Senator Henry Ingwersen, Representative Michele Meyer, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Michael Beck, and I am a resident of Bangor. I support LD 1235, “An Act to Establish Transparency in Opioid Settlement Funds Allocated to Municipalities or Counties.” I respectfully request that you vote 'ought to pass' on this bill.

Transparency is non-negotiable; the public has an absolute right to know how opioid settlement funds—funds derived from immense suffering—are being utilized. I have heard some counties/municipalities are claiming that this reporting constitutes an undue burden. I, as an individual, maintain a list of the city of Bangor’s Opioid Settlement Funds expenditures on my personal website.

<https://bangormike.com/opioid-settlement-payments-received-expenditures-by-bangor-maine/>

Shortlink: <https://bangor.link/BangorOSF>

If I can achieve this level of transparency as a citizen, certainly municipalities and counties can. And they should. This bill is essential for accountability to those who have suffered the most in this opioid crisis. Please pass it.

Sincerely,

Michael Beck
Bangor