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Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA)

In Support of

*LD 1235, An Act to Establish Transparency in Opioid Settlement Funds
Allocated to Municipalities or Counties*

April 3, 2025

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Amanda Campbell, and I am submitting testimony in support of LD 1235 on behalf of the Maine Municipal Association's 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC).

LD 1235 directs municipal, and county governments identified as direct share plaintiff subdivisions receiving opioid settlement funds to file required annual reports outlining the expenditures of those settlement funds.

Municipal officials managing these settlement funds have been provided with extensive guidance from the Office of the Maine Attorney General*, including resources from MMA's partner, the National League of Cities, as well as the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the National Association of County and City Health Officials. The approved usages of settlement funds are outlined in the Maine Subdivision 2022 and 2023 Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Opioid Settlement Funds*.

Reporting the expenditure of these funds, in accordance with the legal documents governing the settlement, is a task that municipal officials support.

Thank you for your consideration of the municipal perspective on this important topic. Please feel free to contact any member of the LPC or the MMA Advocacy team with any questions relating to municipal operations.

*<https://www.maine.gov/ag/opioids/resources.html>

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