



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1400
TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

Grayson Lookner

P.O. Box 8264
Portland, ME, 04104
Phone: (207) 200-3860
Grayson.Lookner@legislature.maine.gov

April 6, 2025

Testimony of Representative Grayson Lookner presenting
**LD 1005, An Act to Allow Municipal Fire Departments with Trained
Personnel to Conduct Sprinkler Plan Reviews**
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Good morning, Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus and honorable colleagues on the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. My name is Grayson Lookner, and I represent House District 113, which includes several neighborhoods in Portland. I'm here today to present **LD 1005, An Act to Allow Municipal Fire Departments with Trained Personnel to Conduct Sprinkler Plan Reviews**.

This is a simple bill which would let trained municipal fire departments review sprinkler plans instead of relying solely on the state. This is a practical fix for a real problem—right now, the backlog at the state level slows down housing projects, especially in busy towns where every delay adds cost and frustration.

The bill makes sure this isn't a trade-off on safety. Only towns with fire departments that have National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)-certified staff and a clear review process can take this on. That means plans still get checked thoroughly against all codes, just by people who know the local buildings and needs.

For towns with the capacity, this is a no-brainer. It'll get permits moving faster, take pressure off the state, and keep safety tight. I hope the committee will pass LD 1005 quickly—it's a small change that'll make a difference for housing and common sense.

Thank you, I'd be happy to answer any questions.