

Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

In Support of

LD 1537, *Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Lowering Property Taxes by Revising the State-Municipal Revenue Sharing Program*

May 1, 2025

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Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier and members of the Taxation Committee, my name is Kate Dufour, and I am submitting testimony in support of LD 1537 on behalf of MMA's Legislative Policy Committee, which establishes the association's positions on all municipally relevant legislation.

As is the case for any program that has been in place for years, a review to ensure that the intended objectives and goals are being met is warranted, and to the extent deemed necessary, refinements could lead to better outcomes. While there is always a concern that lingers in the minds of municipal officials that a study might be used to implement a particular outcome, or in this case restrict access to non-property tax generated revenue, they are willing to take a leap of faith. To that end, the policy committee appreciates the inclusion of municipal officials, experts in municipal finance and tax policies, as well as MMA as commission members.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the municipal perspective on this issue.