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Testimony in Support of

LD 1665 (“An Act to Provide Property Tax Relief to Maine Families”)

LD 1770 (“An Act to Provide Immediate and Long-term Property Tax Relief to Maine Households”)

**J. Andrew Cashman on behalf of the Maine Association of REALTORS®
May 1, 2025**

Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, my name is Andy Cashman. I am the Founder of Resolve Government Relations. We represent the Maine Association of REALTORS®, a professional trade association established in 1936 with over 6,500 members statewide. REALTORS® protect private property rights, build Maine communities, and grow our state’s economy. Our members represent buyers and sellers involved in both residential and commercial real estate transactions. Our membership also includes industry affiliates, such as lenders, closing agents, title agents, appraisers, building inspectors, surveyors, etc. The Maine Association is chartered by the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), the largest trade association in the country.

The Maine Association of REALTORS® supports LD 1665 and LD 1770. If passed, these bills would expand eligibility requirements and increase the property tax fairness credit. In so doing, these bills would adjust the credit amounts to be more impactful as property owners face financial challenges associated with unexpected property tax increases. The proposed tax credit increases would also serve to incentivize prospective property owners to continue the pursuit of homeownership.

MAR also supports these bills because they aim to increase accessibility and implementation of tax credits available to property owners. Both bills propose to create a working group or task force to review our current property tax system and available statewide relief measures. Both provisions in these bills aim to ensure that prospective property owners can attain ownership and existing property owners can remain in place.

Unprecedented inflation and economic pressures have caused many property owners to encounter financial hardship which has exacerbated housing affordability. Rising property taxes only compound these pressures. MAR encourages public support of homeownership and real estate investments through tax advantages. We support tax deductions that encourage private investment in real estate and limit the financial impact of property tax increases. For these reasons, we support LD 1665 and LD 1770 and urge you to vote Ought to Pass. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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