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Hello distinguished members of the Housing and Economic Development Committee!

My name is Myles Smith, I live in Portland, and I support the proposed revisions to the growth management law included in this bill.

Our current growth management clearly needs a major overhaul - we're not managing growth. The results speak for themselves, with decades of unmanaged suburban sprawl in southern Maine, while our cities largest cities have lost population. The current growth management system has not managed to increase density, municipal fiscal responsibility, support safer streets and access to transportation.

This proposal reforms comprehensive planning to focus on community goals and makes it more accessible for community leaders. This is good for our towns, and good for our goals of values-aligned planning.