



Craig V. Hickman
Senator, District 14

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

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Augusta, Maine 04333

Testimony of Senator Craig V. Hickman in support of
LD 1328, “An Act to Create Housing and Recovery Services for LGBTQIA+ Individuals,”
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development
Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Senator Curry, Representative Gere, and honorable members of the Committee on Housing and Economic Development, my name is Craig Hickman, and I am proud to represent Senate District 14, twelve municipalities in southern Kennebec County including my beloved hometown of Winthrop. Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of [LD 1328](#), “An Act to Create Housing and Recovery Services for LGBTQIA+ Individuals.”

We have much talked in these halls and committee rooms about the opioid crisis and its effects on Maine and Maine people. We have seen its effects on our city streets, in our rural schools, and everywhere in between. Unfortunately, certain groups have been even more hard hit by this crisis than others. LGBTQIA+ Mainers are one of these groups.

Recovery programs and residences are a vital way to ensure that all Mainers have the ability to overcome substance use disorder and reintegrate into our communities. However, many LGBTQIA+ Mainers have difficulty finding safe and affirming recovery housing, which is especially important to them feeling safe and comfortable as they recover.

LD 1328 seeks to remedy this and provide recovery residences led by LGBTQIA+ throughout the state. Specifically, it would fund one of these residences in an urban community, one in a mid-sized community, and one in a rural town in Maine. This would ensure these programs are accessible to all Mainers in recovery, no matter where they live, who they love, what they look like, or how they walk or talk.

Thank you for allowing me to speak in support of this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Craig V. Hickman
State Senator, District 14