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Maine Mayors Coalition Testimony on LD 1870
An Act to Establish a Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program to Impose Penalties on Climate Polluters

Senator Tepler, Representative Gramlich and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, the Maine Mayors Coalition is providing testimony in support of LD 1870, An Act to Establish a Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program to Impose Penalties on Climate Polluters.

The Maine Mayors Coalition is a nonpartisan group representing the mayors of eleven Maine communities – Auburn, Bangor, Biddeford, Lewiston, Portland, Rockland, Saco, Sanford, South Portland, Waterville and Westbrook – and nearly 300,000 residents. The Coalition advocates on behalf of our citizens and municipalities for policies that recognize the vital services Maine cities provide and the positive impact Maine cities have on our state. The Coalition seeks to work in partnership with state and federal elected officials to meet the needs of Maine people.

As with LD 1, we support efforts that will help strengthen our municipalities' ability to prepare for and respond to changes to Maine's climate and related weather events, like the storms that have been ravaging so many cities and towns across the state.

Establishing the Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program Fund would provide resources and financial support to help our communities respond to and recover from these natural disasters. Importantly, too, it would help us plan for and adapt to Maine's changing climate. Such a fund would fortify our state for the future while shifting the costs for enhanced climate resiliency away from our already overburdened property taxpayers.

We respectfully ask you to carefully consider and support LD 1870.

Thank you for your time and your efforts.