

Jeffrey Harmon – Auburn
Susan Hawes – Bangor
Liam LaFountain – Biddeford
Carl Sheline – Lewiston
Mark Dion – Portland
Adam Lachman – Rockland



Jodi MacPhail – Saco
Becky Brink – Sanford
Elyse Tipton – South Portland
Michael Morris – Waterville
David Morse – Westbrook

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Maine Mayors Coalition Testimony on LD 2116, An Act to Make Permanent the Affordable Housing Income Tax Credit

Senator Grohoski, Representative Sayre and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, the Maine Mayors Coalition is providing testimony in support of LD 2116, An Act to Make Permanent the Affordable Housing Income Tax Credit.

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.

Maine's housing crisis directly impacts each of our cities, and housing is top of mind for all of us. Every day we see the human and economic consequences that come from the lack of housing supply and the ever-rising costs of homes and rents. Our cities continue to work to find ways we can help preserve existing affordable housing and develop new affordable housing. Both are critical for our cities – and our state – to thrive.

In our capacity as mayors, we engage with community members and partners to foster ideas and advance solutions at the local level. We have found the Affordable Housing Income Tax Credit to be a valuable financial tool for developers seeking to invest private funds to build and preserve qualified affordable housing. This tax credit is set to expire on December 31, 2028.

We appreciate all the work the Legislature has undertaken to alleviate Maine's housing crisis. We encourage you to continue supporting the expansion of Maine's housing stock by removing the provision of law that will terminate this program. Please vote ought to pass on LD 2116.

Thank you for your time.