



***Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development***

*Laura Mitchell, Executive Director, Maine Affordable Housing Coalition*

**IN FAVOR - LD 2156 An Act to Provide for the 2026 and 2027 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds**

*January 22, 2026*

Chair Curry, Chair Gere, and members of the Committee on Housing and Economic Development:

My name is Laura Mitchell, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Affordable Housing Coalition and am urging support for LD2156.

The Maine Affordable Housing Coalition is a mission driven nonprofit with 140 member organizations that advocate for the creation and preservation of housing affordable for all Maine people.

Housing affordability is Maine voter's top issue right now, and we must reduce technical and administrative barriers to continuing our State's work to house Maine people most in need.

The impactful and historic work that Maine Housing has been doing in this unprecedented environment of high interest rates, rising construction costs, supply chain issues, aging housing stock, and changing demographic and workforce needs can't be constrained by technical and administrative limitations on bonding that don't reflect the current environment.

This bill allows Maine Housing to continue to enable the building, preservation and support for low-income first-time home buyers that it has always successfully done.

Please support LD2156. The Maine Affordable Housing Coalition is available to respond to questions as needed.