

Michelle Lamm
Scarborough
LD 2212

Senator Peggy Rotundo, Representative Drew Gatinne and distinguished members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee:

My name is Michelle Lamm, and I am the Executive Director of Greater Portland Family Promise. Our organization works to help families experiencing homelessness and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through housing support, comprehensive services, and pathways to long-term stability.

I am writing today in strong support of LD 2212. The supplemental funding authorized by this legislation has been instrumental in helping families in our community address urgent needs, including rental arrears, utility bills, and other essential expenses that are critical to keeping families safely housed.

For many families, even a short-term gap in financial support can mean the difference between remaining in their home or facing homelessness. This funding has allowed schools in our district, and others across the state to step in at precisely the moment when families need it most, preventing evictions, stabilizing housing, and giving parents and children a chance to thrive.

Investing in these supports is not only a matter of compassion; it is a practical and cost-effective approach. By keeping families housed, we reduce the strain on emergency services, shelters, and other public resources, while supporting the long-term health, education, and well-being of Maine's children and families.

I urge the committee to support LD 2212 and continue to provide the necessary resources to help families stay safe, stable, and self-sufficient.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Michelle Lamm
Executive Director
Greater Portland Family Promise