



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF LD 2212  
February 17, 2026**

Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, members of the joint standing committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the joint standing committee of Housing and Economic Development:

I am John Concannon, the Executive Director for Westbrook Housing, a public housing authority serving Westbrook and surrounding communities in providing crucial affordable housing resources to approximately 1,800 households through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program and Housing Choice Voucher program. Westbrook Housing is a property owner, manager, and housing developer working to address the state's housing needs.

Maine is grappling with a critical and systemic housing shortage, a crisis that is actively impeding workforce growth, economic development, and overall community stability.

The immense demand for safe, affordable housing severely outstrips the available supply. We witness this daily: Westbrook Housing manages persistent, record-long waitlists for low-income and workforce housing, which are clear evidence of the thousands of families and seniors struggling to find a stable home.

Addressing this challenge requires essential, strategic public investment. State funding is vital for supporting the production and preservation of housing that Westbrook Housing is uniquely positioned to deliver. This investment not only ensures the deepest levels of affordability but also leverages private capital, lowers development barriers, and moves projects forward for Maine residents who need them most. A sustained state-level commitment is necessary to close financing gaps and deliver the housing units Maine urgently needs.

Ultimately, housing availability and stability are fundamental to Maine's economic vitality. By continuing this crucial investment through the supplemental budget, we can ensure Maine remains a state where our most vulnerable residents, our workers, and our families are all positioned to thrive.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Concannon  
Executive Director

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WESTBROOK HOUSING  
30 LIZA HARMON DRIVE, WESTBROOK, MAINE 04092 ~ (P) 207.854.9779 (F) 207.854.0962  
WWW.WESTBROOKHOUSING.ORG ~ INFO@WESTBROOKHOUSING.ORG

