131st Legislature Senate of Maine

Senate District 15

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TESTIMONY OF SENATOR MATTHEW POULIOT

In Support of LD 797

"Resolve, to Authorize the Conveyance of Real Property to the Capitol Area Recreation Association"

Public Hearing: March 13, 2023

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Pluecker and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture Conservation and Forestry. I am Senator Matt Pouliot and I represent Senate District 15, which includes the towns of Augusta, Belgrade, China, Mount Vernon, Sidney and Vassalboro. I am testifying <u>in support of LD 797</u>, "Resolve, to Authorize the Conveyance of Real Property to the Capitol Area Recreation Association."

The Capitol Area Recreation Association would like for the State to convey this land to them so that they can make improvements to the property which will help with their long term goals, which others will discuss today.

The city of Augusta has been very fortunate to have the Capitol Area Recreation Association to maintain fields and provide opportunities for both young and old alike who want to play sports and participate in outdoor activities. I was fortunate to be able to use this facility as a kid, playing countless baseball games there through the years.

The CARA complex is a real gem in our community, but it can be made even better. I encourage this committee to support this resolve and allow the Capitol Area Recreation Association to move forward with improving this tremendous asset to provide greater opportunities to the residents of central Maine.

Thank you.