

## LD 2

### To Chairpersons Teresa Pierce, Traci Gere, and the members of the Housing Committee:

- My name is Bruce Blackmer from Dedham, Maine.
- I am on the Executive Committee of the Greater Bangor Apartment Owners and Managers Association, GBAOMA.
- I am also a member of the Legislative Council working closely with, Attorney and Lobbyist, Dan Bernier representing landlords and property owners in, but not limited to, Waterville, Augusta, Portland, South Portland, Lewiston, Auburn, and Bangor areas.
- I have been a landlord since 1972. I have owned a 50-unit trailer park , multi-units, and single-family homes. At one time, I managed 65 units. I have mostly provided affordable housing to low-income tenants.
- **I am speaking in SUPPORT of this Bill.**
- There are many reasons why a person is homeless. The one that affects a landlord the most is that some people have never learned, or they have disregarded, how to be a good tenant. They need to realize that they are using someone else's property, it is not theirs. They need to understand and honor the terms of the lease, be respectful of the landlord, and the other tenants who are also paying rent to live in that building.
- Just because they are paying rent, does not give them the right to act any way they want. Any problems or misunderstandings should be resolved with mutual respect. LD 2 is an opportunity for them to learn how to be a good tenant.
- In over 50 years of being a landlord, I have never evicted a good tenant!
- **I am here to ask you to SUPPORT LD 2.**
- Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion. I would be happy to answer any questions.

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