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Testimony of Rep. Tiffany Roberts presenting

LD 2060, An Act to Amend Licensing Requirements for Landscape Architects Before the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

Good afternoon, Senator Curry and esteemed colleagues on the Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Committee. My name is Tiffany Roberts, and I represent House District 149 and the communities of North Berwick and South Berwick. I am here before you today to present *LD 2060, An Act to Amend Licensing Requirements for Landscape Architects*, on behalf of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation (“OPOR”).

LD 2060 seeks to remove the requirement that an applicant for landscape architect licensure complete all required education and practical experience before taking the required examination and aligns the license requirements for applicants with those for architects. The bill also authorizes the Maine State Board for Licensure of Architects, Landscape Architects and Interior Designers to specify, by rule, the required amount of practical experience that an applicant for licensure as a landscape architect must complete before obtaining a license.

Passage of LD 2060 will expedite and streamline the application process for landscape architects, as candidates will be able to sit for the examination without the verification of credentials currently required. Credentials would be verified only at the time of application.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions, but I recommend that you hold questions for the Board’s Administrator, Catherine Pendergast, who will be better positioned to respond.