

Testimony of Peter N. Connell

LD 337 "An Act to Amend the Regulation of Manufactured Housing to Increase Affordable Housing"

Senator Pierce, Representative Geer and distinguished members of the Joint Select Committee on Housing, my name is Peter Connell and I reside in South Portland. I represent the Manufactured Housing Association of Maine and am here to testify in favor of LD 337 "An Act to Amend the Regulation of Manufactured Housing to Increase Affordable Housing."

The Manufactured Housing Association of Maine (MHAM) is a nonprofit trade and professional association whose member companies build, sell, site, install, finance Manufactured Homes (HUD Code) and Modular Housing (Maine State Certified Modular Homes) and operate Manufactured Housing Communities and Developments.

Established in 1986, the Manufactured Housing Association of Maine is dedicated to the protection and promotion of Maine's Manufactured Housing Industry through legislative representation, continuing industry education, public relations and communication efforts.

I am originally from Oxford and have been involved with the industry for over 40 years in both retail and manufacturing, as well as serving on the Maine Manufactured Housing Board representing Manufacturers for 20 years during that time. On behalf of the Association, we all look forward to working with this Committee to offer a partial solution to the housing crisis that Maine is experiencing, by supporting this legislation to allow Manufactured Homes built to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Standards (post 1976) and Modular Homes built to the Maine State Certified Modular Homes Standard to be located on lots where single family homes are allowed. Our industry has been providing quality, affordable homes to Maine people for decades, and this legislation will only enhance that.

I'm happy to answer any questions now and will provide information requested for the work session. Thank you so much for this opportunity.