

Peggy Rotundo Senator, District 21 3 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Testimony supporting

LD 2158, "An Act to Improve the Housing Voucher System"

Senator Peggy Rotundo

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Senator Pierce, Representative Gere and other distinguished members of the Committee on Housing, my name is Peggy Rotundo and I represent Senate District 21, the City of Lewiston. I am here today to testify in support of LD 2158, "An Act to Improve the Housing Voucher System"

I am a proud cosponsor of this bill to help Maine progress toward its goal of providing the affordable housing our residents need and deserve. Allowing Maine Housing to apply for a waiver to increase the value of Section 8 vouchers is a sensible and compassionate policy that will help underserved people find stable housing.

This bill makes other changes that will benefit people in our state. Notably, it would allow Maine Housing and municipal housing authorities to allow the vouchers to be used anywhere in the state, regardless of where they are issued, and to allow Section 8 clients a reasonable amount of time to use a voucher once it has been issued.

Please vote in favor of this bill to reduce the terrible stress that comes with not having a secure, reliable home. Thank you, and I am happy to take any questions.