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Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

In Support of,

LD 646, An Act to Fully Reimburse Municipalities for Lost Revenue Under the Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens Program

February 13, 2024

Senator Rotundo, Representative Sachs and distinguished members of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, my name is Amanda Campbell, and I am submitting testimony in support of LD 646 on behalf of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA), and the 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC), who were elected by their colleagues and peers to determine MMA's position on bills of municipal interest.

Municipal officials fully support this measure to complete the statutorily required reimbursement to communities that were required to participate in the Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens Program. Although eventually repealed, the program instituted additional administrative burdens on municipalities and, even before this reimbursement delay, prolonged the timeline for collection of much needed municipal revenues. This emergency bill, with a fund transfer date of March 1, 2024, will ensure that communities receive the remaining funds due in a timely manner and that any municipality's financial security is not further impeded by this delay in reimbursement.

It is for these reasons that MMA and the LPC support LD 646 and urge the committee to vote ought to pass.

Thank you for your consideration of the municipal perspective.

If you have any questions regarding MMA's position on this bill, or other bills with municipal impact, please contact me at acampbell@memun.org