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Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA)

In Support of

LD 219, *An Act to Limit Hypodermic Apparatus Exchange Programs to a One-for-one Exchange*

March 17, 2025

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Amanda Campbell, and I am submitting testimony in support of LD 219 on behalf of the Maine Municipal Association's 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC).

Municipal officials are supportive of exchange programs and the other services that those facing addiction need. However, the unintended consequences communities hosting these clinics are facing are causing concern for the continuation of the 1:100 exchange procedure.

Simply put, local officials are concerned about the safety of their public works employees and their residents who are consistently exposed to used needle litter. LD 219 can be part of an important conversation about how municipal and state officials should regulate exchange programs so that communities are safe, and clients receive the care they need.

Thank you for your consideration of the municipal perspective on this important topic. Please feel free to contact any member of the LPC or the MMA Advocacy team with any questions relating to municipal operations.