



**Testimony of Garrett Mason  
in Opposition to LD 1005**

**An Act to Allow Municipal Fire Departments with Trained Personnel to Conduct Sprinkler Plan  
Reviews**

Good Morning, Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. My name is Garrett Mason. I am a resident of Lisbon Falls and a Partner at Dirigo Public Affairs. I am here today speaking on behalf of my client, the Associated Builders and Contractors of Maine, a trade association advocating for contractors, builders, and industry professionals statewide. Our members rely on clear, consistent regulations to deliver safe, high-quality projects, and that's why we oppose LD 1005

Maine's current system delivers a uniform standard for sprinkler installations. This single, statewide approach ensures all projects follow NFPA and MUBEC codes consistently, giving contractors clear rules to work by. It's a system that's proven efficient and consistent.

Handing control to municipalities would break this uniformity. Each town could interpret codes differently, set its own rules, and create a patchwork of conflicting standards. That's not just a headache for contractors—it could weaken safety and raise costs as builders try to meet local demands.

The state already offers preliminary permits for \$50, issued instantly online, letting work start right away. Full permits follow in 1 day to 3 weeks, depending on project size.

We believe the system works fine as is and there is no need to change it. We urge you to vote "Ought Not to Pass" on LD 1005.