

Testimony of Peter N. Connell

LD 1419 "An Act to Provide a Sales Tax Exemption for Housing Constructed Off-site Similar to that for On-site Construction"

Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier and distinguished members of the Joint Select Committee on Taxation, my name is Pete Connell and I reside in South Portland. I represent the Manufactured Housing Association of Maine and am here to testify in favor of LD 419.

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), 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 look forward to working 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 have a similar tax exemption as housing built on site, allows us to continue to be as competitive as we can be and offer the highest value homes to Maine people as possible. I will be happy to answer any questions now and will provide information requested for the work session. Thank you so much for this opportunity.