



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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April 23, 2025

Testimony  
In Support of

## **LD 1505 An Act to Phase out the Sales and Use Tax**

Good Afternoon Senator Grohoski, Rep. Cloutier and my esteemed colleagues and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, I am State Representative Shelley Rudnicki representing District 67, the towns of Fairfield and Benton. I am here to bring forward **LD 1505 An Act to Phase out the Sales and Use Tax**

In 1951 when sales tax was brought into Maine, the sales tax was 2% with 22 exemptions. Presently, the sales tax is 5.5% with over 100 different exemptions which we keep adding to.

On Oct 1 2013 - June 30, 2015 sales tax was increased from 5% to 5.5%. It was supposed to be temporary. We all know what *temporary* in the legislature means.

This bill is simple and will take the sales tax down to zero. Every 2 years the sales tax will be reduced by .5%. It will take 12 years to get to zero which will ease the impact on state revenues.

This bill will go right to the heart of helping low income and fixed income Mainers. In fact, it will help all Mainers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Shelley Rudnicki'.

Shelley Rudnicki  
State Representative