

Augusta, Maine 4/25/2025

Testimony of a Single Dad – In Support of LD 1287

Good afternoon, honorable chairs and members of the committee,

My name is Domiciano Antonio, and I'm a single father raising my children right here in Maine. When first came in Maine as immigrant, I have received assistance from Lewiston General Assistance and eligible for GAP Program from Immigrant Resource Center of Maine. I am now working as a Housing Navigator, and I'm here today to speak from the heart in support of LD 1287, and to ask you to vote ought to pass on this bill.

Like a lot of parents, I work hard. I do my best every day to provide for my kids to keep food on the table, lights on, and a roof over our heads. But lately, that roof feels more uncertain than ever. Rent keeps going up, and every month it feels like a balancing act between paying bills and keeping our home.

It's not just about housing, it's about stability. It's about making sure my kids can sleep in the same bed at night, go to the same school, and grow up with the sense of safety every child deserves.

LD 1287 would give families like mine a real chance to breathe, to rebuild, and to stay strong. When families are housed, we can show up better at work, be present for our kids, and contribute more fully to our communities.

As a father, all I want is to give my children a fair shot at a better life. This bill helps make that possible.

Please support LD 1287 for the families working hard to stay afloat, and for the kids who need a stable home to thrive.

Thank you for your time and your service.