



Maine Real Estate &  
Development Association

**Supporting Responsible Development**

## **In Support of LD 1385: An Act to Consider Municipalities Meeting Regional Housing Goals in Awarding Transportation Grants**

April 25, 2025

Chair Curry, Chair Gere, and members of the Housing and Economic Development Committee;

On behalf of the Maine Real Estate and Development Association, please accept the following testimony in support of LD 1385: An Act to Consider Municipalities Meeting Regional Housing Goals in Awarding Transportation Grants. MEREDA's members consist of a wide range of people and organizations involved in real estate development in Maine, from architects and contractors to bankers and attorneys to developers and municipalities. Our members work together to support responsible development in Maine.

I would like to begin by thanking Representative Gere for bringing this bill forward, one that continues Maine's movement toward prioritizing meeting our housing needs now and into the future. Whether or not it was intended, LD 1385 begins to address one of the recommendations in the HR&A report: Strategy 2.3: Prioritize state funding for municipalities that contribute to statewide and regional housing production goals. By tying funding for transportation to increased production in housing, you as a committee would be rewarding those communities who refuse to bow to NIMBYism and who embrace the need for all communities to add to Maine's economic and workforce development. Additionally, it places the transportation funding where changes will likely be needed to accommodate new residents. The State should actively plan for these needs, and this bill is forward-thinking in this manner.

Many of the bills you are hearing today have one goal in mind: increase housing in Maine. While there are times when large omnibus bills are needed to make huge changes, there is value in chipping away at barriers at every turn. This is one of those bills with value and we encourage you to support its passage.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony; I'm happy to answer any questions.

Elizabeth Frazier

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