

Testimony in Support of

LD 1304: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Limit Property Tax Increases for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older and Shift the Tax Burden to State Gaming Revenues

May 1, 2025

Chairpersons Senator Grohoski and Representative Cloutier and honorable members of the Taxation Committee:

My name is Kerry Leichtman. I am a Certified Maine Assessor serving the jurisdictions of Camden and Rockport. I am testifying today in support of LD 1304.

LD 1304 offers a creative solution to paying for a limit of property taxes for seniors without putting the burden on younger Mainers. I like the approach. I would pair this with a companion bill that offers relief to working families headed by permanent residences. That modification would offer a more generous tax fairness credit funded by sports betting revenues. This would not need to be a Constitutional amendment.

While I strongly support tax relief for seniors, we cannot pass over younger people who are struggling to establish themselves in this increasingly expensive climate which is fueled by rising property values and property taxation.

Thank you for considering my testimony.