

132nd Legislature

*Senate of
Maine*

Senate District 9

Senator Joe Baldacci

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**Testimony of Senator Joe Baldacci in Support of LD 1770
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation
May 1, 2025**

Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier, and Members of the Committee, my name is Joe Baldacci. I have the honor of representing Bangor and Hermon in the Maine Senate, and I am a proud co-sponsor of this bill.

I'm here today in support of LD 1770 because property tax relief is one of the most urgent issues facing Maine households — and I've introduced a number of bills this session on this exact topic. Some of those ideas are pretty big, and I believe we should be thinking boldly about how to fix a system that simply isn't working for too many Mainers.

This bill takes a balanced approach: it offers targeted, immediate relief through the helpful and popular Property Tax Fairness Credit — one of our most effective tools to support low- and middle-income families and seniors — while also recognizing that no single policy is going to solve the whole problem. That's where the task force comes in.

The task force created by LD 1770 gives us a venue to look statewide at the structural issues driving property tax burdens. It invites big thinking and real problem solving. No idea should be left off the table if we're serious about long-term solutions.

Constituents in Bangor and Hermon count on me to fight like hell for them. Expanding property tax relief to them is one way I do this.

I stand by the good work we've done on property tax relief we've pushed for in recent years, but we all know it hasn't been enough. This bill moves us forward — with urgency and with vision. I urge your support. Thank you.