May 2, 2025

Honorable Senator Curry, Representative Gere, and members of the Housing & Economic Development Committee:

My name is Michaela Loisel, I am a lifelong Mainer and a resident of Hallowell.

I write today in support of LD 1723 -An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Manufactured Housing Communities to Prevent Excessive Rent and Fees Increases.

I came from a working class family who worked hard to make ends meet. Fortunately, my parents were able to afford a home for us and my siblings and I put ourselves through college with loans. I, too, was able to purchase a home and had limited ability to help fund college for my children.

Yet, It is a different economy today- one in which home ownership is not a given for my own children because the high cost of housing and college loan bills that cut into savings they may have had.

My faith, as a Unitarian Universalist, affirms and promotes justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and the inherent worth and dignity of every person. I am very concerned about Maine's steep housing costs and the increasing population of people who are unhoused. Stable, affordable housing leads to better life and to a safer community for all. LD 1723 makes good sense. I humbly ask you to vote in favor of this important measure.

Thank you all for your public service.

Sincerely,

Michaela Loisel