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Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

In Support of

LD 2079 - An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Municipal Reporting on Residential Buildings

January 20, 2026

Senator Curry, Representative Gere, and distinguished members of the Housing and Economic Development Committee, my name is Tanya Emery, and I am providing testimony in support of LD 2079 at the direction of the Maine Municipal Association's (MMA) Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). Our LPC is composed of municipal officials from across Maine, elected by their peers to represent member communities. MMA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit member service organization that aims to help provide policy solutions that work for all residents of Maine.

LD 2079 makes important improvements over the residential unit reporting bill passed last year. Local governments are one of the state's most important partners in addressing Maine's housing crisis. We understand the desire for consistent reporting on local progress to create residential units. Scaling back the previously enacted reporting requirements, which were onerous, is not only appropriate but necessary so that local government bodies can focus on creating units rather than sourcing data not always available to them for the purpose of reporting it to the state.

MMA's Legislative Policy Committee appreciates and fully supports the language introduced in LD 2079 and the implicit recognition of the need to right-size this effort in coordination with the many other imperatives assigned to local governments in the continued drive to create housing in Maine. We urge the committee to support LD 2079. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter, and I am happy to answer any questions you might have.

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