



Testimony of Scott Tash, Chief Executive Officer

In Support of LD 2138

Resolve, Authorizing the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to Convey the Interests of the State in Certain Real Property in Bangor

**Committee on State and Local Government
January 28, 2026**

Good afternoon, Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury, and members of the Committee on State and Local Government,

My name is Scott Tash, and I am the CEO at UCP of Maine. UCP of Maine has been serving adults, children and families with a wide range of intellectual disabilities, mental health disorders, behavioral challenges and/or physical challenges since 1954, and those services currently include operating an Intermediate Care Facility in Bangor for individuals with significant developmental and medical needs, generally known as the Elizabeth Levinson Center, located at 159 Hogan Rd. I am pleased to offer this testimony in support of LD 2138 on behalf of my organization, UCP of Maine.

I want to thank Senator Baldacci for sponsoring this bill and the staff of the Department of Finance and Administration for the collaboration and open discussions around the needs of our program, the facility upgrades, and the importance of long-term planning.

Since 2009, UCP of Maine has operated the Elizabeth Levinson Center, leasing the building from the State. During this time, we have enjoyed a very collaborative relationship, with UCP providing maintenance and capital upgrades as needed to the Elizabeth Levinson Center building along the way. Some of the previous projects we have collaborated with the Bureau of General Services on include a Boiler upgrade, front and rear parking lot paving, and installation of a full facility generator. While the building has remained in compliance with all codes and standards throughout the duration of the lease, and received favorable comments during successful licensing review and fire marshal inspections, it does continue to age and there will be significant capital investments needed in the near and short term, specifically a critical roof replacement that has been discussed for some time.

As the Intermediate Care Facility program operates on a cost basis, essentially a "break-even" for the year, it is nearly impossible to build reserves to draw from in order to fund large capital projects, therefore requiring support from financial partners. Over the years when investing in the facility, we have been fortunate to have support from our financial partners, as they understand the importance of the service we provide and the relationship we have with the State. However, without equity or interest in the building, this becomes increasingly challenging, particularly when evaluating larger scale needs.

Aging facilities are not new issues for the State, or for us as an organization. And continued investment in those facilities is critical in the ability to successfully provide CMS certified programs into the future. Substantial and critical investments of the property at 159 Hogan Rd, Bangor, and the conveyance of the building to UCP of Maine will allow those investments to proceed in a timely manner. I support and urge you to authorize the Department of Finance and Administration to convey such interests to avoid disruption to the critical services the residents of the Elizabeth Levinson Center need and deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully Submitted,

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