

Testimony for LD 2212
Submitted by Drew Wing
February 18, 2026

Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development, my name is Drew Wing. I am here to testify in support of LD 2212 and the proposed budget allocation of seventy million dollars for housing investment.

Like many of you, I am here wearing multiple hats. I am a father of two adult children who want to live and work in Maine. I serve as a board member of the Maine Affordable Housing Coalition. I am also the President of Zachau Construction, a commercial construction company based in Freeport, Maine.

As a father, I am deeply concerned about the availability and affordability of housing for my children and their generation. I share the hope of many Maine parents that our children will have a real opportunity to build their lives here at home.

As a business owner, I see firsthand the challenges our hard working employees face when trying to secure stable housing. The shortage of housing is one of the most significant barriers to workforce development in our state. When employees cannot find places to live, businesses struggle to grow and communities struggle to thrive.

Through my work with the Maine Affordable Housing Coalition, I also understand the unique challenges faced by lower income Mainers and our most vulnerable neighbors, including those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

What stands out about LD 2212 is its broad and thoughtful approach to addressing Maine's housing challenges. It continues support for the Rural Rental Program, recognizing the distinct realities of building housing in rural communities. It leverages the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program and federal resources to support income restricted multifamily housing. It acknowledges that the affordability gap affects not only low income households but also middle income Mainers who are increasingly priced out of the market. It also advances homeownership opportunities through support for traditional single family development and the preservation and expansion of mobile home communities.

LD 2212 reflects an understanding that Maine is diverse and that our housing solutions must meet the varied needs of our communities. The time for debating whether public investment is necessary has passed. Housing is the foundation of economic strength, workforce stability, and healthy communities.

I respectfully urge you to support LD 2212 and the proposed housing investment. Thank you for your service and your consideration.