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Testimony in Support of LD 561, Improve Standards for Animal Rescue Entities  
Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry  
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Senator Dill, Representative O'Neil, and members of the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, my name is Gary Anderson and I reside in Glenburn, Maine. I am speaking to you today representing the Federation of Maine Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog Owners. I respectfully urge you to vote ought to pass on LD 561. We are fully in support of evaluating the current rules and standards for animal rescue entities as well as the discussion and formulation of improvements in standards to improve animal health and wellbeing. We understand that this bill was filed in response to a complaint where a rescue facility was alleged to be handling over 50 dogs with one caretaker as well as a vicious dog being rehomed multiple times. This bill creates an opportunity to review all standards for animal rescue facilities, how and at what frequency they are reviewed for compliance, as well as propose new rules to improve animal wellbeing. I am happy to answer any questions you might have. Thank you.