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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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***Testimony of Representative Suzanne Salisbury in support of
LD 174 "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Ending Hunger by 2030
Advisory Group"
before the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry***

Dear Senator Dill, Representative O'Neill, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry. My name is Sue Salisbury, and I represent House District 35, which includes part of Westbrook. I write to you today in support of **LD 174, An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Ending Hunger by 2030 Advisory Group.**"

I have had the honor over this last year to be a member of this Advisory Group, serving on the Public Policy/Legislative Action Support Team. Today you will hear statistics and stories about poverty and hunger across our state. You will come to understand that the work of this committee comes from a place of desperation. Mainers need help, not just a band aid fix, but real policy changes that will stop the hemorrhaging that is hunger in Maine. You will come to understand that hunger is a symptom of a much larger issue that involves the intersection of poverty, lack of thriving wage jobs, transportation issues, lack of childcare and lack of reliable housing.

The immense amount of work that this committee put into these recommendations takes into account the intersectionality of this pressing issue. I urge you to support adopting these recommendations so that we can finally end hunger in Maine.

Thank you for your time and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.