

Michael Schaab
Monroe
LD 109

Dear Senator Beebe, Representative Salisbury, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety,

I am writing to ask for your opposition to LD 109. My name is Michael Schaab and I live in Monroe. It is nearly impossible to read our local Republican Journal, the Bangor Daily, or listen to national and local news without hearing about the housing crisis that is affecting every region in Maine as well as in the nation. Every day I hear about this issue. LD 109 would place a burden on many, if not all, of the Recovery Houses here in Maine. I believe we cannot morally add more more struggle for those Maine residents who are already endeavoring to overcome issues such as drug abuse and misuse, mental illness, homelessness. We should be looking for more Recovery Housing, not less. These are places where the people living there are working toward reentering our communities as contributing members. While everyone going through these programs is successful, those who do manage their recovery become extremely productive citizens because of their experiences. During the previous public hearing on LD 353, there was tremendous support by the legislature, the State Fire Marshall, and the Maine Attorney General, to support Recovery Houses as Single or double family units so as to not overburden them financially. I hope that you will follow in that pathway and vote "ought not to pass" on LD 109.

Sincerely,
Michael Schaab
Monroe, Maine