



Testimony in Support of LD 207

As Amended by the Sponsor's Amendment

Resolve, to Direct the Department of Public Safety to Examine the Responsibilities, Fees, and Duties of the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board

March 20, 2023

Senator Bibbe-Center, Representative Salisbury, and Honorable Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee;

On behalf of the American Institute for Architects, Maine Chapter (AIA Maine), I am pleased to submit this testimony in support of LD 207, as presented by the Sponsor's Amendment, entitled "Resolve, to Direct the Department of Public Safety to Examine the Responsibilities, Fees, and Duties of the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board."

AIA members are the front line of interaction with the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code, as architects engage regularly with code provisions in drafting and designing work. AIA Maine also has a representative on the MUBEC Board, which plays an important role in the implementation of the international codes that make up the MUBEC: the International Building Code, the International Existing Building Code, and the International Energy Conservation Code.

AIA Maine believes the MUBEC Board needs additional resources and long-term planning for funding its important work. Recently, the MUBEC Board has conducted important work and will continue to grow in importance as more buildings are constructed in Maine, and as climate action demands new and innovative methods of building. We believe the MUBEC is one of the State's most important building and energy regulation tools, and we look forward to continuing to be an important part of the development, implementation, and enforcement of the state's building codes.

AIA Maine supports LD 207 as amended by the sponsor's amendment and believes that a long-term funding and governance plan for the MUBEC will enable the important work of the board to continue and evolve. We also look forward to the opportunity to serve on the study and believe our current role on the MUBEC Board makes us well suited to share important insights into the process.

Please support LD 207 unanimously with an Ought to Pass as Amended report.

Sincerely,

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On behalf of AIA Maine
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