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Maine Community Action Partnership Supports LD 551 An Act To Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State

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Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, ladies and gentlemen of the Committee On Energy, Utilities and Technology, I am Megan Hannan, Executive Director of Maine Community Action Partnership, and we are neither for nor against LD 551 An Act To Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State.

Let me first be clear that we whole heartedly support weatherization programs, especially those for families with lower income; in the current bill, we would encourage you to consider a far larger share of the targeted homes to be low income. Our concern with this bill, as written, is in the stated goals. We do not have enough inspectors, auditors, or contractors to meet our current demand, and adding this will further strain the system.

We are concerned about the quality of weatherization projects we see now, and have to re-do or undo weatherization that was not complete and holistic. Real, holistic weatherization requires consideration of the full house, not a single leaking window or door.

To achieve the weatherization of 17,500 homes and businesses by 2025 and 35,000 homes and businesses by 2030, including at least 1,000 units of housing for low-income individuals or households per year will require planning and funding for training, apprenticeships, and fair wages.

In all, we fully support weatherization programs, as long as they are with these considerations. They are important, especially with Maine's old housing stock, and done well add value to a home. Quality is at least as important as quantity.

I am happy to answer any questions that I can, now or in the work session.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Megan Hannan](#)
Executive Director