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**Testimony in Support of LD 546 (“Resolve, to Require the Preparation of
Preapproved Building Types”)**

J. Andrew Cashman on behalf of the Maine Association of REALTORS®

March 4, 2025

Senator Curry, Representative Gere and members of the Joint Select Committee on Housing and Economic Development, my name is Andy Cashman. I am the Founder of Resolve Government Relations. We represent the Maine Association of REALTORS®, a professional trade association established in 1936 with over 6,500 members statewide. REALTORS® protect private property rights, build Maine communities, and grow our state’s economy. Our members represent buyers and sellers involved in both residential and commercial real estate transactions. Our membership also includes industry affiliates, such as lenders, closing agents, title agents, appraisers, building inspectors, surveyors, etc. The Maine Association is chartered by the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), the largest trade association in the country.

The Maine Association of REALTORS® supports LD 546. The bill would direct the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning, to work with a consultant to develop a set of building types that municipalities could adopt as preapproved buildings to help reduce the cost and time associated with building permits. The bill would add more housing supply options statewide by shortening the timeframe of building, from permitting through completed construction. As proposed, LD 546 would bolster housing development that engages the local community and allows for diversity in housing needs through different preapproved building types which “may include but are not limited to, single family homes, duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes and mixed-use residential and retail buildings.” The bill also seeks “new technologies to produce materials and develop building methods designed to make housing more efficient and affordable.” The bill would help reduce costs with standard designs and fast-track development. This is a commonsense approach to increasing housing supply in Maine.

For these reasons, we support LD 546 and respectfully urge you to vote Ought To Pass. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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