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Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Maine
LD 659

I am the President of the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Maine. We are for LD 659 supporting the ban on requirement for Sprinklers in single Family and 2 family homes.

We are in a housing crisis, the cost of housing is unaffordable for many today. The requirements for sprinklers is an added cost and burden for tax payers that does not show payback. The safety of our residents are important, but this can be achieved with hard wired inter connected smoke detectors.

Having a sprinkler system should be left up to the home buyer to decide if they would like this additional layer of protection. The local municipalities should not decide this for them.

There is no substantial proof from data that of the house fires any lives would have been saved from having sprinkler systems.

In most remote towns with out public water this system like Gorham, requires a large tank in the basement full of water because wells can not handle the water needed.

This is also a cost that has to be factored

In closing we support this ban on fire sprinklers to single family and 2 family homes to help reduce the cost of construction on a home.