

STATE OF MAINE

Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future 181 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0181

Testimony In Opposition to

L.D. 1662, An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Zoning and Land Use Restrictions to Limit Certain Requirements to Municipalities with Populations of More than 10,000

May 2, 2025

Senator Curry, Representative Gere, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development, the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future offers this testimony in opposition to L.D. 1662, An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Zoning and Land Use Restrictions to Limit Certain Requirements to Municipalities with Populations of More than 10,000.

The 130th Legislature approved, and the Governor signed into law, L.D. 2003 as a reasonable means by which to help create additional housing opportunities for Maine people. Homeowners around the state are now adding accessory dwelling units for loved ones or to provide desperately needed rental units, while developers are utilizing the modest density increases authorized through that bill.

L.D. 1662 seeks to roll back that progress and restrict L.D.'s reforms to just those municipalities with more than 10,000 people. We believe that such action would be a serious mistake and would deprive tens of thousands of Maine people of the right to use their own property to help address our housing challenges.

We urge the Committee to reject this proposal.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.