



5/13/2025

*Support for LD 1829, An Act to Build Housing for Maine Families and Attract Workers to Maine
Businesses by Amending the Laws Governing Municipal Land Use Decisions*

Dear Sen. Curry, Rep. Gere, and members of the Housing and Economic Development Committee,

My name is Craig Saddlemire, and I am the Development Organizer for the Raise-Op Housing Cooperative in Lewiston, Maine. We own 5 apartment buildings, home to 33 different households, and 90 residents, a majority of whom are low-income, and some of whom are formerly homeless.

We strongly support LD 1829, An Act to Build Housing for Maine Families and Attract Workers to Maine Businesses by Amending the Laws Governing Municipal Land Use Decisions.

In too many communities throughout Maine, the red tape of local zoning laws is prohibiting the creation of the housing that Mainers need. In some cases, the red tape was created inadvertently, through a reasonably well intentioned desire to control the negative impact of development in the community. In other cases, zoning laws were created specifically to keep communities segregated, prohibiting certain types of housing from being developed altogether. In both cases, the result plays a major variable in our current housing crisis. LD 1829 will address these barriers and help to level the playing field for new housing development across the state.

Please move LD 1829 ought to pass.

Sincerely,

Craig Saddlemire
Cooperative Development Organizer
Raise-Op Housing Cooperative
145 Pierce Street, Office 102
Lewiston, ME 04240