

Ann Dodd-Collins  
Portland  
LD 1721

Senator Teresa Pierce, Representative Traci Gere, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ann Dodd-Collins. I am a resident of Portland, and I am testifying in support of LD 1721, "An Act to Create Transitional Housing Communities for Homeless Populations in the State". I volunteer with Greater Portland Family Promise and Preble Street and this past winter I also volunteered at the State Street Church winter warming shelter.

We all know that the housing crisis in Maine is severe and that it is state-wide. Transitional housing is desperately needed in Maine and the proposed Transitional Housing Community Construction Program Fund would help to make transitional housing throughout the state a reality. This bill checks all the boxes. It provides funding for transitional housing. It meets housing needs throughout the state, not just in high population areas. It provides wraparound services such as job training, health care, and English language classes. And it provides stability for families and individuals who are homeless.

I urge you to support LD 1721 and vote Ought To Pass.