

Don McCann
Bangor
LD 1976

Senator Pierce, Representative Gere, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Housing. I am testifying in support of LD 1976 for a few reasons.

First, I thank you for your time in allowing my testimony on this bill with its amended updates.

This bill would center comprehensive planning on what municipalities care about, not on the heavy inventory list that don't help meet local or state goals.

Also this creates a flexible, place-based approach that works for municipalities of all sizes.

This bill reduces the time and resources needed to prepare a comprehensive plan, and allows municipalities to direct their resources to visioning and implementation and it recognizes that implementation is the most challenging and enduring part of the comprehensive planning process, and provides an updated and more robust set of potential implementation strategies that reflect current best practices.

It also provides opportunities for the state and regional planning organizations to support municipalities through updated tools and technical support.

It is for these reasons alone that I would hope for the passage of LD1976 as I feel this is a step forward to helping Maine's housing crisis and I hope that you all feel the same.

Thank you so much again for your time,
Don McCann