

Joseph Leonard
Bangor
LD 2136

Dear Esteemed Committee,

I scribble these lines to throw my hearty support behind LD 2136, "An Act to Provide Financial Support for Shelters for Unhoused Individuals." It's high time we address the plights of unhoused folks, especially out here in rural America.

LD 2136 is not just a piece of paper; it's a moral call to lend a helping hand to our most down-and-out community folks. Tossing some dollars toward shelters ain't just doing the right thing; it's a savvy investment in the well-being of our whole society. We are not just checking off moral duties; we're paving the way for better communities all around.

Let's get to the meat of it. We need to shine a light on the hard data that tells us why putting our money where our mouth is matters. Chronic homelessness, if you let it slide, can bleed a town's coffers dry. Folks stuck in a cycle of homelessness end up dancing with fire departments, police departments, healthcare hubs, social services, and emergency care outfits more than you'd care to count.

Now, investing in shelters for these unhoused souls ain't just being charitable; it's a smart move that'll save us a heap of dollars down the road. Studies shout it loud and clear – stable roofs and a helping hand cut down the strain on emergency resources. What's more, it sets the stage for lasting stability, rehabilitation, and recovery for folks grappling with homelessness.

This financial fuss is not a bunch of hot air. It's a real deal that hits every resident's quality of life square in the chops. If we get ahead of homelessness with a play like LD 2136, we're setting the stage for a future where every person has a shot at a safe and dignified life.

In wrapping this up, LD 2136 is not just a bill; it's a crucial stride in fostering compassion, social responsibility, and keeping a tight rein on the state's crucial coffers. Backing this bill ain't just a gesture; it's shouting from the rooftops our commitment to communities where every soul has a fair shake at a decent life. I implore you to mull over the long-term gains of this legislation and stand tall for LD 2136.

Yours truly,
Joseph Leonard