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Testimony of Meg Helming before
the Committee On Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business
in support of
**LD 93: An Act to Ensure Access for All Caregivers to Diaper Changing Stations in
Public Restrooms**

March 28, 2023

Senator Curry, Representative Roberts, and distinguished members of the Committee On Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, my name is Meg Helming and I'm the COO for the YMCA Alliance of Northern New England, which represents the 15 YMCAs in Maine. The YMCA supports LD 93: *An Act to Ensure Access for All Caregivers to Diaper Changing Stations in Public Restrooms*.

As one of the largest youth-serving organizations in the country, and in Maine, the YMCA supports policies that support families. We see this legislation as a sensible policy to make being out and about with little ones a bit less challenging. We all know that parents of young children need all the help they can get in that regard!

You may or may not know that this legislation was written by a Maine high school student in the YMCA Youth & Government program, a mock government program that culminates in more than 125 highschoolers taking over the State House for a weekend in November. This rigorous program teaches participants about the legislative process, but more importantly, strong leadership skills and how to engage in respectful dialogue even when they disagree. We appreciate Representative Collamore willingness to sponsor this legislation on our youth leader's behalf.

We urge you to vote ought to pass on LD 93.

Respectfully submitted,

YMCA Alliance of Northern New England

Maine YMCAs:

Auburn-Lewiston YMCA • Bangor Region YMCA • Bath Area Family YMCA • Boothbay Region YMCA • Central Lincoln County YMCA • Down East Family YMCA • Kennebec Valley YMCA • Mount Desert Island YMCA • Old Town-Orono YMCA • Penobscot Bay YMCA • Sanford-Springvale YMCA • State YMCA of Maine • Waldo County YMCA • YMCA of Greater Waterville • YMCA of Southern Maine

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