

Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association**In Support of*****LD 93 - An Act to Ensure Access for All Caregivers to Diaper Changing Stations in Public Restrooms*****March 29, 2023**

Senator Curry, Representative Roberts and members of the Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Committee, my name is Rebecca Lambert and I am providing testimony in support of LD 93 on behalf of Maine Municipal Association's (MMA) elected 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). For reference, the LPC provides direction to the advocacy team at MMA and establishes the position on bills of municipal interest.

Municipal officials pride themselves on their dedication to providing needed services and assistance to the residents within their borders. Likewise, local leaders want their residents to feel welcome and comfortable entering public buildings and that includes individuals with children. Assessing your child's bathrooms needs cannot always be anticipated and having diaper changing stations available to individuals if the need arises while conducting business with the municipality, only further extends that consideration.

The amendment provided for LD 93 notes a provision that would exclude buildings where significant construction would be required and deemed not financially feasible to install the diaper changing station, in addition to alterations that would conflict with current rules adopted by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission or alterations that would bring the building out of compliance with current building codes. Some small municipalities have buildings that would fall under these exceptions and appreciate the recognition that in some instances this measure could be cost prohibitive.

Thank you for your time and for considering the municipal perspective on this issue.