



**Testimony on behalf of**  
**The American Society of Landscape Architects**  
**Before the Joint Committee on**  
**Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business**  
**January 23, 2024**

Good afternoon, Chairwoman Roberts, Chairman Curry, and members of the Joint Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business.

I am Bradley Rawls, Manager of State Government Affairs for the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). I thank you for the opportunity to express our support for LD 2060 which will remove the requirement that an applicant for landscape architecture licensure complete both the education and experience requirements for licensure before qualifying to take the required examination.

Founded in 1899, ASLA represents the professional interest of our more than 15,000 members. Landscape Architects are licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. They plan, design, and manage the natural and built environment around us: community masterplans, parks, walkable neighborhoods, multimodal transportation networks, green stormwater systems, and much more. Through these responsibilities, landscape architects keep the public safe from hazards, protect vital natural resources, and foster active lifestyles. The public interest is best served when qualified professionals perform these services.

ASLA believes candidates for licensure should be allowed to begin taking the Landscape Architecture Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.) immediately following graduation from an accredited program. While gaining practical experience is a critical component to licensure, we believe there is no justification for candidates to be barred from examination prior to completing all required years of supervised practical experience.

Additionally, this proposed change would more closely align Maine's landscape architecture licensure requirements with the state's requirements for applicants of architecture licensure. Landscape architects seeking licensure would be treated similarly to architects seeking licensure.

Once again, we respectfully request that you support LD 2060 and eliminate this barrier in the licensure process.

Thank you again for your time and consideration and I am happy to answer any questions.