

April 27, 2025

Senator Anne Carney, Chair

Representative Amy D. Kuhn, Chair

Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

100 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Anna Trevorow, and I am a former Portland City Councilor and a resident of the Bayside neighborhood. During my tenure on the City Council, I worked extensively on issues related to homelessness, and I continue to be deeply invested in the well-being of our unhoused neighbors. Bayside, as you may know, is home to a high concentration of service agencies and individuals experiencing homelessness, making this issue particularly personal to me.

I am writing to express my strong support for LD 1410 and to urge the Committee to issue an “Ought to Pass” recommendation.

The due process remedies proposed in LD 1410 are not just necessary—they are fundamental to the principles of democracy and justice that we all hold dear. Due process is a cornerstone of our legal system, ensuring that every individual, regardless of their housing status, is treated with fairness and dignity.

From my experience on the City Council, I am acutely aware of the challenges surrounding the handling of personal belongings during encampment sweeps. What may appear as refuse to some can be invaluable to others—items essential for daily survival or of deep personal significance. There have been documented instances where the city’s adherence to its own policies on the retention of personal property has been called into question. This underscores the urgent need for a clearly defined and consistently applied process.

LD 1410 addresses these concerns by establishing transparent procedures that protect the rights of our most vulnerable citizens. It ensures that personal belongings are not discarded without due consideration and that individuals have a clear avenue for recourse if their rights are violated.

I urge you to support LD 1410 and to recommend its passage. By doing so, we affirm our commitment to justice, equity, and the humane treatment of all Maine residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Anna Trevorrow

Former Portland City Councilor

Resident, Bayside Neighborhood