

May 9, 2025

Dear Joint Standing Committee on the Judiciary,

My name is Robert Kenney. I live in Saco, Maine at the Forge Collection apartments. I am testifying in support of LD 1927: An Act to Protect Housing Quality by Enacting Mold Inspection, Notification and Remediation Requirements.

Shortly after moving in, we started having bad water leak issues. Gallons of water poured out of the ceiling for thirty minutes or more. I reported this immediately to the manager, Bernie Saulnier. He will not make repairs.

I have reported each leak as it was happening to the managers and their after hours maintenance man. They refuse to make any repairs regarding the leaks. They won't do mold remediation or do any clean up.

Each time we have a leak, the walls and ceiling get soaking wet for days. We have moldy air for weeks. We keep getting sick. We have had to have the windows open in the dead of winter to clear out the moldy air.

After a year of the managers stonewalling me, I reported this to Code Enforcement. They saw the water leak damage in two locations but did not write a report. They wrote me that were leaving it up to the managers to "voluntarily comply" with repairs.

I have managed property in other states and have dealt with Code Enforcement. I have never had this experience. Mold issues are handled quite differently and are taken much more seriously in California.

The Maine Bar Association offers a low cost consultation and lawyer referral service. However, there were no attorney's that represent tenants as part of this service at the time.

It is my hope that a law will be passed that protects tenants from negligent landlords and property managers. My experience in Maine has been that since they are not breaking any laws, mold must not be an important issue.

Thank you,

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