

Linda Webb
Gorham

Hello, Senator Rafferty and Representative Sylvester and other Committee Members:

Our names are Linda & Bruce Webb. We live in Gorham, and we are testifying in support of LD #211, An Act to Provide Emergency Access Shelter for Persons Experiencing Homelessness.

When people have no place to live, it is only humane to offer them shelter. As Rev. Raphael Warnock, newly elected US Senator, noted: "A vote is a kind of prayer about the kind of world you want to live in". The kind of world that we want to live in is one in which those in need are given the means to better their situation. Housing for the homeless has been shown to improve their chances of successfully tackling addictions, of obtaining employment, of gaining independence. If this year of Covid has taught us anything, it is that we are all connected. When one segment of society is struggling, it affects us all. We mustn't look the other way when it comes to those who are experiencing homelessness. Instead we need to address the causes and the solutions. LD #211 is one step in doing so.

Thank you for considering our thoughts on this issue.

February 17, 2021