



**STATE OF MAINE
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**RYAN M. FECTEAU
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

**Testimony of Speaker Ryan Fecteau
In Support of L.D. 1656
“An Act to Build Energy-Efficient Affordable Housing”
Monday, May 10, 2021**

Senator Hickman, Representative Sylvester, honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing, I am Ryan Fecteau and I represent part of my hometown of Biddeford. I also have the distinct honor of serving as the Speaker of the Maine House. I'm submitting this testimony as a proud cosponsor of L.D. 1656, *An Act to Build Energy-Efficient Affordable Housing*, sponsored by Representative Rebecca Millett. This bill provides the investment Maine needs to make a serious impact on our housing shortage, while also building up our workforce with high quality, sustainable, green jobs.

Funding affordable and energy-efficient housing will pay dividends for Maine by attracting workforce to our state, investing in the clean energy economy, and providing stability to Maine's families. Passing L.D. 1656 will create opportunities to help solve three of Maine's greatest challenges: the housing shortage, the labor crisis, and the threat of climate change. This bill will allow our state to significantly scale up its investments in green infrastructure, creating good, stable jobs and thousands of new units for Mainers to call home.

Preparing Maine for tomorrow's complex challenges requires finding creative solutions today. L.D. 1656 is just the type of creative solution Maine needs, leveraging private dollars and federal funds to maximize the economic impact of this smart investment. I urge you to join me in supporting L.D. 1656.