

Annika Moore
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Senator Hickman, Representative Sylvester, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing: my name is Annika Moore, I am a resident of Brunswick and I am writing to testify in favor of LD 1656.

This bill addresses three important crises that deserve our attention in Maine. It will help to alleviate the shortage of affordable housing while also creating good-paying jobs. It also is a major step toward addressing the climate crisis in Maine, as much of Maine's current housing produces significant greenhouse gas emissions.

As a young person attending college in Maine, I am already becoming anxious about where I will live after I graduate. When my college shut down due to the pandemic, I had to look for alternate housing in the state and struggled to find affordable options. This bill would encourage young people to stay in Maine through increased housing and employment opportunities.

I am very excited about this innovative yet practical initiative to address the problems that are most important to me as a young person.