

City of Portland | City Council Kate Snyder, *Mayor*

To: Joint Standing Committee On Labor and Housing

From: Mayor Kate Snyder, City of Portland

Date: 5/18/23

Re: LD 1935



Testimony in support of LD 1935 An Act to Promote Workforce Development by Establishing a Workforce Development Program

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing:

I write to you on behalf of the City of Portland's Legislative/Nominating Committee in support of LD 1935, An Act to Promote Workforce Development by Establishing a Workforce Development Program.

If established, this program could be of significant assistance in addressing many of the challenges facing Portland residents and businesses, including housing affordability and access, labor shortages, and a lack of coordination of the various resources typically needed by unhoused and/or underemployed individuals.

We believe this bill has the potential to positively impact municipalities across the state who struggle with many of the same issues as Portland, and are eager for the State of Maine to coordinate and lead the development of meaningful solutions. LD 1935 has the potential to be an important step toward such a solution.

Thank you for your consideration.