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To Members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Regarding L.D. 387, “An Act to Prohibit the Governor from Relocating Illegal Immigrants to This State”.

February 26, 2025

Sen. Baldacci, Rep. Salisbury, and members of the State and Local Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony before you today. I’m Penny Morrell, taxpayer and citizen of the Town of Belgrade, Maine.

I support L.D. 387, “An Act to Prohibit the Governor from Relocating Illegal Immigrants to This State”.

The City of Portland declared itself a “sanctuary city” a few years ago. The money Portland has spent on welfare during that time exceeds what all the other Maine municipalities spent on that line item combined, according to a discussion on the Maine Policy Institute’s *Pine Tree Pulse*, February 14, 2025.

The City of Portland exceeded its budget line item for welfare and secured help from the State of Maine. That means all taxpayers across our state bailed out the city financially, even though we mostly oppose “sanctuary cities” that harbor illegal aliens, or what this bill calls “immigrants.”

Therefore, I applaud the legislators who sponsored this bill and call to a halt, the governor relocating illegal immigrants here in Maine.

I urge this committee to vote “ought to pass” on LD 387. Thank you.