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**Testimony in Support of LD 542  
("An Act Regarding Municipal Property Tax Levy Limits")**

**J. Andrew Cashman on behalf of the Maine Association of REALTORS®**

**March 17, 2025**

Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury and members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government, my name is Andy Cashman. I am the Founder of Resolve Government Relations. We represent the Maine Association of REALTORS®, a professional trade association established in 1936 with over 6,500 members statewide. REALTORS® protect private property rights, build Maine communities, and grow our state's economy. Our members represent buyers and sellers involved in both residential and commercial real estate transactions. Our membership also includes industry affiliates, such as lenders, closing agents, title agents, appraisers, building inspectors, surveyors, etc. The Maine Association is chartered by the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), the largest trade association in the country.

The Maine Association of REALTORS® supports LD 542. If passed, the bill would establish limits to municipal property tax levies that may only be exceeded in specific instances. This policy approach would protect property owners by ensuring predictability and easing the financial responsibility of drastic property tax increases. This would help to make housing slightly more affordable for property owners. By limiting levy increases, more property owners will be able to remain in place versus being forced to sell due to their inability to keep up with property tax increases. Unprecedented inflation and economic pressures have caused many property owners to encounter financial hardship which has exacerbated housing affordability. Rising property taxes only compound these pressures. For this reason, we support LD 542 and urge you to vote Ought to Pass. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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