



**MAINE MUNICIPAL
ASSOCIATION SINCE 1936**

60 Community Drive | Augusta, ME 04330-9486

1-800-452-8786 (in state)

(T) 207-623-8428

(F) 207-624-0129

Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

In Support Of

LD 811 - An Act to Require a Municipal Public Hearing and Vote Before a Sports Wagering Facility May Be Established

March 10, 2025

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is Rebecca Lambert, and I am providing testimony in support of LD 811 on behalf of the Maine Municipal Association's (MMA) elected 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). For reference, MMA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit member service organization and aims to help provide policy solutions that work for all residents in Maine and the LPC guides the advocacy efforts and establishes positions on bills of municipal interest.

Municipal leaders are rooted in their belief of home rule and support requiring a public hearing and vote before a sports wagering facility is established in their community. These types of facilities have social and economic implications, and officials take seriously their responsibility to ensure transparency, accountability, and public input throughout the process.

A public hearing allows residents to voice their perspectives, ask questions, and fully understand the potential impacts on local businesses, infrastructure, public safety, and overall community well-being. Likewise, a vote ensures that a decision reflects the will of the people, which in turn helps to strengthen trust in local government and that development aligns with the values and needs of the community.

Thank you for your time and for considering the municipal perspective on this issue.



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