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Health & Human Services Committee
Ranking Member

Good morning Senator Baldaccii, Representative Matlack, and distinguished members of the State & Local Government Joint Standing Committee, my name is Marianne Moore. I proudly represent Senate District 6, which includes all of Washington County along with Winter Harbor, Gouldsboro, and Sullivan in Hancock County.

I am offering testimony for LD 1010, “An Act To the Maine Service Fellows Program”.

As mentioned in previous testimony, the Maine Service Fellows Program is designed to help small communities and micro-organizations in rural areas where the greatest assets are human resources. With more than 50 small communities in Washington County covering 3,258 square miles, this program can provide great opportunities for young people to embrace the beauty of the area and provide vital services to the communities who are struggling to recover from the current COVID pandemic. Addressing housing issues, substance use prevention and recovery, public health issues including mental health, and workforce development will fall right in line with the priority needs of so many of the communities I served.

Of course, as the State Senator for Washington County, it would be my hope they would fall in love with the area and choose to make Downeast Maine their home. ☐

Having previously worked for Healthy Acadia and interacted with an AmeriCorp employee, I have experienced the value of a similar program not only to the organization but to the communities she supported. Establishing a similar program within the State of Maine allows for a broader set of community needs to be addressed without the federally prescribed funding priorities.

I ask your consideration to vote “Ought to Pass” on this bill.

Thank you!