



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

June 20, 2025

The 132nd Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 132nd Legislature:

By the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing L.D. 1328, *An Act to Create Culturally Appropriate and Trauma Informed Housing and Recovery Services*.” This bill would require MaineHousing to receive and make available either public or private funds for the acquisition or operation of two recovery houses that are led by “individuals qualified to provide culturally appropriate services to serve underserved, underrepresented and disparately impacted” people in substance use recovery. MaineHousing would be further required to distribute these funds through a competitive bid process to grantees.

MaineHousing’s mission is helping Maine people own, rent, repair, and heat their homes. It is an independent state authority created to address the problems of unsafe, unsuitable, overcrowded, and unaffordable housing. The agency has no expertise managing recovery housing, evaluating whether the counselling and other services provided for individuals in recovery from substance abuse are delivered on a professional level, or whether those services are effective. Furthermore, MaineHousing is a financing agency and does not own any residential properties; LD 1328 does not specify who would own these projects or how they would be acquired. And importantly, the bill provides no funding.

While recovery housing is important for helping individuals with substance abuse disorder find stable housing and work on their recovery, MaineHousing is not the appropriate agency to administer recovery housing for any population.

For these reasons, I return L.D. 1328 unsigned and vetoed, and I urge the Legislature to sustain this veto.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER