

128th Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 14

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Testimony in Support of LD235

Dear Senator Dow, Representative Tipping-Spitz and Members of the Taxation Committee,

I cosponsored this legislation and am testifying in favor of this bill at the request of a constituent whose daughter has a complex diagnosis of spina bifida, epilepsy and intellectual disability. The service provider who serves her daughter is really struggling under a combination of overly low rates of reimbursement set by the state and the service provider tax.

I understand from extensive conversations with the provider community that the tax helps the State of Maine maximize federal Medicaid funds and that the idea has been that the state offsets the tax through rates, so it doesn't appear possible to change that at this time.

If there is a way to eliminate the tax in the future without reducing Medicaid funding to the state, I urge you to explore that and work to achieve it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
State Senator Shenna Bellows