

Rob and Luann Lawler  
Cumberland Foreside  
LD 3

Although we support heating assistance for needy Mainers, we are TOTALLY AGAINST \$35 million coming out of Home and Community Based Services. Instead of taking \$35 million out of HCBS, the state should leave the money in HCBS and use it to address the MASSIVE workforce crisis caused by too-low wages for direct support professionals. As the parents of a developmentally disabled daughter who needs 24/7 coverage, we are witnessing first hand the continuous turnover and lack of direct care staff. This is providing tremendous anxiety for both her and us as parents. Why do the disabled of Maine always seem to come in last??!!???