

Testimony of Todd Goodwin, CEO, John F. Murphy Homes, Inc.
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
Testifying Neither For Nor Against

L.D. 659, An Act to Promote Seamless and Flexible Home and Community Supports Across the Lifespan for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities or Autism

March 21, 2023

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Todd Goodwin. I serve as CEO of John F. Murphy Homes, Inc., a provider of disability services based in Auburn, Maine. We serve both children and adults. I am testifying neither for nor against in support of L.D. 659, *An Act to Promote Seamless and Flexible Home and Community Supports Across the Lifespan for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities or Autism*.

I appreciate the Department's intention to streamline entry into the adult disability system for children as they age out of the children's system. Moreover, I support the idea of building flexibilities into a Medicaid waiver program that can respond effectively to a person's needs as they age.

A significant redesign of the state's disability system as proposed here is by definition a major substantive rule. As a program that will affect thousands of Maine lives, the Lifespan Waiver will clearly require "the exercise of significant agency discretion or interpretation in drafting" as outlined in MRS 375, Subchapter 2-A, §8071(B)(1). I hope you also recognize this and work to ensure full legislative review of the Department's proposal before formal adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Goodwin

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