

Testimony of Todd Goodwin, CEO, John F. Murphy Homes, Inc.
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
Testifying In Support Of
*L.D. 473, Resolve, to Expand the Eligibility for and Increase the Number of Hours of Applied
Behavior Analysis Services Authorized by the MaineCare Program*
March 29, 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 in support of *L.D. 473, Resolve, to Expand the Eligibility for and Increase the Number of Hours of Applied Behavior Analysis Services Authorized by the MaineCare Program.*

I have two thoughts to share in support of this bill.

First, I completely agree with the testimony put forth by the Association for Maine Behavior Analysis (AMeBA). We are proud to employ several members of this professional association. They do incredible work in the face of challenging behavior.

Second, my agency operates seven special purpose private schools under the Margaret Murphy Centers for Children name. We provide educational and treatment services to students from pre-K through grade 12 in partnership with 40+ public school districts across our state.

Applied behavior analysis is a critical clinical modality in our overall treatment approach. I stand in awe at its effectiveness in creating positive change across a range of populations and types of problematic behavior. When done right, it simply works.

Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities are just as deserving of effective treatment interventions as are available in the children's service system. It is an issue of parity and moral obligation.

Respectfully submitted,
Todd Goodwin
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