

Toni Kemmerle
Brunswick
LD 659

Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

LD 659, if enacted, will allow DHHS to make substantial and permanent changes to the way that services are provided to Mainers with intellectual disabilities and autism without further legislative oversight and with very limited opportunities for input from people served, their families or advocates. The system changes are described very vaguely. In fact, the LD is a long list of general aspirations without details of any kind. Please consider requiring DHHS to go through major substantive rule making to redesign its service delivery system. The changeover to the lifespan waiver is a drastic one that could have many unforeseen consequences and lasting impacts on many lives. Major substantive rule making is appropriate and legally required.