

Janet T. Mills
Governor

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Commissioner



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April 14, 2023

Senator Joseph Baldacci, Chair
Representative Michele Meyer, Chair
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0100

Re: LD 599 – *An Act to Provide Support Services for a Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Persons*

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:

This letter is to provide information regarding LD 599, *An Act to Provide Support Services for a Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Persons*. This bill would provide \$1,200,000 in ongoing funding for support services for a transitional housing program in Portland. In addition to low-barrier housing, the program intends to provide case management and support services to individuals who have medical, mental health, or substance use related needs and who are experiencing homelessness.

DHHS recently established the HOME Program, which is a new, Health Home service model under Section 91 that provides whole-person comprehensive case management, team-based care coordination, supports, and health promotion, and person-centered plans of care with comprehensive transitional care and follow up. This program provides support for programming like that outlined in this bill.

While this programming is important, given the general fund impact, the Department does not support the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information. We would be happy to answer questions from the Committee for the work session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anthony Pelotte".

Anthony Pelotte, Director
Office for Family Independence