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DDPC
LD 1761

Good afternoon,

I have been employed as a Registered Nurse at Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center in Bangor since June 10th, 1996. It is coming up on 27 years in a little over 1 month, I am 51 years old. I have been attacked verbally and physically, mandated to cover shifts after 12 hours work already and exposed to stressful and PTSD trauma causing events every day I work. We accept patients from jails, prisons and emergency rooms. Often, they arrived accompanied by several police officers/cruisers in hand cuffs and are released into our care, where we take care of them without guns, clubs or mace. I love what I do and care deeply for my patients, but I see no way that I can continue to do this until I'm 62 years old neither mentally nor physically. It most definitely takes a toll. I am interested (Actually I'm praying) for LD1761 to become a law.

I consider it a blessing to take care of our state's mentally ill population, but it takes an amount of resilience, strength and fortitude that is unable to be maintained in a healthy way for longer than 25 years.