



**IN FAVOR OF 1719:  
AN ACT TO ESTABLISH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT CENTERS.**

May 3, 2023

Greetings: Chairpersons Senator Baldacci and Representative Meyer and the Honorable Committee of Health and Human Services. I am Jeanne Marquis, an organizer of the Maine Recovery Advocacy Project. I am testifying in favor of LD 1719, An Act to Establish Substance Use Disorder Treatment Centers which will provide at least 20 more Accessible detox beds.

When you have a family member who has finally reached out for help with their addiction, the search for a detox bed begins. The search is not easy with the shortage of accessible detox beds that we are now facing in the state of Maine. The detox bed needs to accept the right insurance, most don't accept MaineCare. The detox bed needs to address your family member's particular addiction. Then, you hope to God, the bed has no waiting list because timing is everything. If the wait is too long, your loved one may give up, go back to using and risk overdosing.

I am thrilled that this bill has bipartisan support which means our leadership understands the importance of additional treatment centers. LD 1719 will establish two treatment centers with at least 10 detox beds each, with a receiving center that is open 24 hours a day. These treatment centers will provide medically managed withdrawal services and coordination with essential services after treatment.

Maine desperately needs these additional detox beds because when our loved ones reach out for help, waiting is not an option. Please vote in favor of LD1719. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jeanne Marquis

Organizer, Maine-Recovery Advocacy Project

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