

**Carl L. Sheline**  
**Mayor**

May 4, 2023

Senator Baldacci, Chair  
Representative Meyer, Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services Maine State Legislature

RE: LD 1664, An Act to Increase Reimbursement Under the General Assistance Program

Dear Sen. Baldacci, Rep. Meyer and members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

As the mayor of Lewiston, I would like to voice my support for LD 1664. The passage of this bill is critical to the city of Lewiston. We are the second largest city in the state and along other service center cities in Maine, the recent growth in both the homeless population and asylum seekers has placed a crushing strain on our General Assistance department and funds.

Increasing the state reimbursement rate from 70% to 90% is necessary to meet the level of need we've been experiencing as a city.

I appreciate Senator Moore for sponsoring this bill and the committee's time.

Sincerely,

Carl L. Sheline