

Wendy Scott
Gorham
LD 1639

I am a nurse in a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Maine Medical Center and have worked in this field for almost 30 years. LD 1639 would not add any level of patient safety to the care that I provide to my patients. As it currently stands, we are able to flex our staffing to accommodate the needs of the patient as demonstrated on that particular day. If a patient becomes more ill, we can tighten staffing in order to provide care. Sometimes, that means adjusting the staffing of less ill patients (having a nurse care for an additional "less sick" patient in order to free up a nurse to assist with a "sick" patient) and we have that flexibility now. The effect of this bill would take away that flexibility.