

**Testimony in Favor to LD 1714:  
An Act To Create a Sustainable Funding Source for Recovery Community Centers Using a  
Percentage of the Adult Use Cannabis Tax Revenue**

Committee on Taxation  
100 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: LD 1714 An Act To Create a Sustainable Funding Source for Recovery Community Centers  
May 10, 2023

Senator Grohoski, Representative Perry, and honorable members of the Joint Standing  
Committee on Taxation,

My name is Donna Lu Holden, and I am a person in long-term recovery from substance use  
disorder (SUD). I am a resident of Cape Elizabeth. I am writing to you today in support of LD  
1714.

My first experience with Portland Recovery Community Center was volunteering about ten years  
ago. I assisted with telephone recovery support (TRS), which involved making calls to people in  
recovery to check-in with them to see if they needed any support. This was my first experience  
volunteering in a recovery setting. I felt needed, and I found a new purpose.

In the last ten years, I have sought various recovery services and treatment options. In November  
2021, I found myself back at PRCC at the new location at 102 Bishop Street. Since I have been  
back, I have had the opportunity to work on my recovery, attend mutual aid meetings, make  
connections, and volunteer. When I first came back, I felt anxious. Over time, I have felt more  
comfortable. Today, I feel like I am at my second home.

I have learned so many things since I started coming to PRCC. I became a volunteer recovery  
coach after taking the training offered at PRRC. I love working with recoverees and supporting  
them as they work different pathways of recovery. I am planning on starting a new mutual aid  
group that focuses on women in sobriety and all that that entails.

LD 1714 will help recovery community centers across the state offer a broad variety of services.  
I hope that this Committee will pass LD 1714.

I thank the Committee for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Sincerely,

Donna Holden