



**Testimony of Laura Cordes
Neither for nor Against LD 2177**

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 29: Allowances for Support Services for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services

February 6, 2024

Good afternoon, Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer and esteemed members of the Health and Human Services Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of LD 2177 *Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 29: Allowances for Support Services for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services.*

MACSP is the statewide association of 90 individual, mission driven agencies providing person centered and individualized educational, vocational, residential and community supports, as well as specialized services and care to several thousand of Maine’s children and adults who have either intellectual disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, or brain injuries, so that they may live full and meaningful lives in the community. The overwhelming majority of our members provide services to adults with disabilities under MaineCare Service Section 29.

As one of the two individuals who provided comments on the proposed rule when posted last September, I want to thank the Department for their response and changes made based on our feedback.¹

An outstanding item that we are hopeful to see addressed this year is improved stakeholder access to the list of all MaineCare service rates. The current landing page, for the MaineCare Provider Fee Schedule and subsequent “Rate Setting” tab indicates that rates were last modified in “September 20, 2016”²

This “2016” date continues to confuse stakeholders who are seeking the most updated rate tables.

Name	Modified
Global Surgery Rules	September 20, 2016
MaineCare UCR	September 20, 2016
Non-Covered Codes	September 20, 2016
Rate Setting	September 20, 2016
1-MaineCare Fee Schedule Preface	November 9, 2016

¹ [Summary of Public Comments and Department Responses and List of Changes to the Final Major Substantive Rule: 10-144 C.M.R. Ch. 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Ch. III, Section 21, Allowances for Support Services for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder](#)

² MaineCare Services Provider Fee Schedule webpage:
<https://mainecare.maine.gov/Provider%20Fee%20Schedules/Forms/Publication.aspx?View=%7B69CEE1D4%2DA5CC%2D4DAE%2D93B6%2D72A66DE366E0%7D>

We suggested to the Department that the Fee Schedule webpages be updated to remove the 2016 dates and if that could not be done, to add a note on the page directing visitors to ignore the “modified” column and date and to click on the service folder to find current rates.

The Department included in its response to this concern that they “will work with its staff to ensure the provider fee schedules are easier to find and that they are updated.”

As part of our state’s significant effort to adopt and codify a rate setting system that is adequate, fair and transparent, we look forward to the Department taking the steps needed to update this site.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Cordes