

Sarah Johnson
Sanford
LD 2214

2/24/24

RE: LD 2214 An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025

Honorable Senator Rotundo, Representative Sachs, and members of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs,

My name is Sarah Johnson and I live in Sanford. I support funding for additional substance use disorder and mental health services throughout the state of Maine.

There are several excellent examples described in LD1975.

Crisis receiving centers will help keep individuals out of the state's prisons and jails, and instead provide physical and mental health services to those in need. Additional harm reduction services such as peer support programs, mobile outreach teams, recovery centers and overdose prevention centers will be a cost savings over incarceration and re-incarceration of those battling substance use disorders. These are compassionate community-based programs that will promote support overall community health.

I hope you will consider funding these programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson
Sanford Maine