Brian StPierre BUXTON LD 709

Greetings,

My name is Brian E. St. Pierre. I have providing Caregiver support to my wife Lenore for the past nine years. She suffers from Dementia and MS

We live in Buxton and in August we will celebrate our 55th wedding anniversary.

I am submitting written testimony and asking for your support of LD709.

The Respite for Me program was a Game Changer for Lonnie and I in so many ways.

The program recognized that families such as mine are in need of recognition and some resources to help them cope with providing long term care and support. It does get lonely sometimes but knowing that Respite for Me cares about us is helpful. The funds were used in so many ways such as

Going bowling, shopping and a movie so I could have alone time while feeling comfortable and secure that a Caregiver was with my wife.

Purchasing some durable medical equipment such as a wheel chair ramp, wheel chair, walker and commode.

Thank you, members of the Health and Human Services committee for reviewing my written testimony. Thank you Representative Kristin Cloutier for sponsoring LD 709. Thank you, Becky Hadiaris SMAA

for your help in my Care giver journey.

Respite for Me is a good program in so many ways. Please support it.

Regards,

Brian E St. Pierre