

March 12, 2024

Please Vote to support LD 709 and LD 815

I am Sharon Renk-Greenlaw from Freeport, Maine . I am a retired RN, and primary caregiver to my husband of 38 years, who suffers from Dementia. He is a wonderful 'Mainer' who has contributed a great deal to our community.

He has been declining from this condition for about 7 years, and I am at the point where I can no longer care for him alone.

I participated in the prior Respite for Maine Grant program with Robyn Berry.

It was invaluable to me for my mental health. The funds allowed me to hire part time support aid, to allow me personal time, for exercise, friends, and household chores, and mental health therapy.

We were able to afford to purchase a safety alert device that he wears.

Please vote to support LD 709 and LD 815.

With the presence of Long Term Care Insurance (which we DO NOT) have, the increasing fees for the private home care agencies, have become cost prohibitive, and create a financial hardship .

This creates even more stress for us caregivers.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sharon Greenlaw