

March 17, 2025

100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Testimony in support of LD 840 “An Act to Modernize the State Supplement to Supplemental Security Income by Removing Marriage Disincentives”

Dear Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

My name is Daniel Francis, and I live in Beals, Maine. I am a self-advocate, meaning I am a person who lives with a disability. I am also a member of Speaking Up For Us, Maine’s Self-Advocacy Network.

I am in support of LD 840 because when me and my wife got married, we lost part of our income. When we had more before we got married. It has made it hard because we have had to be extra careful with our money. It is quite a hinderance as we can’t purchase things we want to purchase. We must budget for things like food, rent, caring for pets and other necessities that we need. This includes cleaning supplies for home and hygiene products.

Passing this would benefit our lives. It would eliminate stress in our lives because of the constant worry about whether we can afford something that we need.

I also have friends that are not moving forward with getting married because they know how it would affect their lives.

I would like to ask you to please consider passing LD 840.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Daniel Francis
Beals, ME
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