

## Testimony in Support of LD 623 ("An Act to Enhance Support Services for Individuals with an Acquired Brain Injury")

## Wayne R. Lamarre on behalf of the Maine Athletics Trainers' Association

## March 18, 2025

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and members of the Joint Select Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Wayne Lamarre, chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee of the Maine Athletic Trainers' Association (MATA). The MATA is a professional association representing the over 300 licensed athletic trainers practicing healthcare for athletes and the physically active here in Maine in settings such as high schools, colleges/universities, hospitals, clinics, and in the workforce.

Central to our education and training is the prevention, acute management, and rehabilitation of injuries and illnesses that commonly affect athletes and the physically active. Concussions that result from sport-related or work-related accidents can prove debilitating for athletes and workers; and athletic trainers (ATs) play a pivotal role in the recognition, management, and referral of these acquired brain injuries.

We support **LD 623** because it updates provisions of the law furnishing individuals with acquired brain injury and their families and caregivers with related support services. These are critical resources needed to support recovery and an important role that state government can provide.

For these reasons, we support **LD 623** and respectfully urge you to vote Ought to Pass. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Governmental Affairs Committee <u>www.gomata.org</u> <u>gac@gomata.org</u>