

Testimony of Angela Westhoff, President & CEO Maine Health Care Association

Testimony before the Committee on Health and Human Services Neither for Nor Against

LD 768, An Act to Update the Laws Governing the Licensing of Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons

with Intellectual Disabilities

Senator Ingwersen and Representative Meyer as well as Distinguished Members of the Committee on the Committee of Health and Human Services:

My name is Angela Westhoff, and I serve as the President & CEO of the Maine Health Care Association. We represent approximately 200 nursing homes, assisted living centers, and residential care facilities across the state. Our mission is to empower members to ensure the integrity, quality, and sustainability of long term care in Maine.

I am submitting written testimony neither for nor against *LD 768, An Act to Update the Laws*Governing the Licensing of Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Intellectual

Disabilities.

We wish to emphasize the importance of strong and consistent stakeholder engagement throughout the entire legislative and rulemaking process. Clear communication and meaningful input from those impacted by regulatory changes, especially in complex and highly regulated fields such as ICF IID homes, are essential to ensuring that rules are practical, effective, and responsive to the needs of Maine people.

We also request that any significant regulatory changes arising from this process be designated as Major Substantive. This would provide an additional layer of oversight by requiring legislative approval, reinforcing transparency and accountability for this process. Thank you for your time and consideration.