Sylvia Morrill

Maine Veterans' Homes – Augusta 35 Heroes Way Augusta, ME 0433

April 1, 2025

Representative William Bridgeo
Senator Matthew Pouliot
Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services
132nd Maine Legislature
Cross Building, Room 209
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Representative Bridgeo, Senator Pouliot, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sylvia Morrill, and I am a proud resident of Maine Veterans' Homes in Augusta. I served in the United States Air Force from 1968 to 1976. My training took place in Tampa Bay, and I worked in the communications center. After training, I was stationed in Bangor for the remainder of my service.

During my time in the Air Force, recognition for women was rare. Women weren't always welcomed, and it wasn't easy—but I stood my ground. I was the only woman in the communications center at the time, and I'm proud to have paved the way for others who came after me.

I'm writing today to express my strong support for LD 182: An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Establish MaineCare Reimbursement Rates for the Maine Veterans' Homes on a Per Resident Basis.

MVH is a beautiful and welcoming place. The care is exceptional, the environment is clean and safe, and the staff are truly wonderful—friendly, kind, and compassionate. They don't just do their jobs; they care deeply about us as individuals.

I'm honored to serve as President of the Resident Council here. We meet monthly to discuss ways to improve life at MVH or address concerns from fellow residents. The staff and leadership are always responsive and open to our feedback. We couldn't ask for a better administrator or team.

This level of care, however, relies on adequate and consistent funding. As it stands, MaineCare does not fully cover the cost of caring for each resident. LD 182 would ensure that MVH has the resources it needs to maintain the high-quality care we count on, retain dedicated staff, and continue to serve Veterans across Maine.

This issue is deeply important to me and to all who call MVH home. I respectfully ask for your support of LD 182 to help preserve and protect the Homes that care for those who served.

Thank you for your time, your public service, and your thoughtful consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

- Sylvia Morrill

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