



April 7, 2025

Chairpersons Grohoski and Cloutier, Senators Bickford and Tipping, and Representatives Crockett, Friedman, Lavigne, Matlack, Quint, Rudnicki, Sayre, Swallow, and White:

My name is Christine Dyke and I am the Lead Minister of First Parish Congregational Church, UCC, in Gorham. I am speaking in support of LD1294 An Act to Expand the Dependent Exemption Tax Credit.

The Dependent Exemption Tax Credit has been shown to be one of the best tools to assist low-income families. The proposed legislation will target the support to the families who need it the most. Our church regularly gives families one-time assistance when their available income does not meet their basic needs. The choices that families often make between shelter, food, and personal necessities (diapers, childcare) exhaust families who are already stretched thin.

Please support what is a proven, effective and humane way to support Maine families.

Thank you,

Rev. Christine F. Dyke  
Lead Minister  
First Parish Congregational Church, UCC