

Kile Pelletier
Fort Kent
LD 782
April 9, 2025

100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Testimony in support of LD 782 "An Act to Amend MaineCare Financial Eligibility Requirements"

Dear Senator Ingerswen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services:

I am in support of LD 782.

My name is Kile Pelletier. I am a self-advocate for Aroostook County Area. I have been on the board of Speaking Up For Us, I am also now working for Disability Rights Maine.

I support the bill on raising the asset limit for people who get MaineCare. I have SSDI and the asset limit has been the same since 1989. People have been struggling to be able to save money and still get MaineCare so they can get their services.

We are trying to make our lives better and make ends meet. If we don't get a little push, a little extra money from our asset limit, we will be stuck and struggling to keep up with the times. It makes it a struggle to save for things like a house, a car, or even a vacation. People with disabilities want to live our lives like everyone else. We want these things in life too. But every time we turn around it is another limit to what we can earn.

In Maine and the US, people are struggling, including people with disabilities, due to the cost of living. The asset limit always stays the same. It is time to make a change and raise the asset limit on the state level so people with disabilities will have a chance to make ends meet in their own lives.

Raising the asset limit will provide me with the ability to save money for future costs. I would use this as a down payment on a home, save money for college for my future children, payments on a new car.

I urge you to vote in favor of LD 782.

Sincerely,
Kile Pelletier, Fort Kent Maine
kilepelletier35@gmail.com