

**Testimony in Opposition of LD 1442: Resolve, Regarding Personal Care Agency
Licensing Rules**

Home Care & Hospice Alliance of Maine

April 17, 2025

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Sara Ratcliffe, and I serve as Executive Director of the Home Care and Hospice Alliance of Maine. The Alliance is submitting testimony in opposition to LD 1442: Resolve, Regarding Personal Care Agency Licensing Rules.

The Home Care and Hospice Alliance of Maine is a network of home care, hospice, and personal care providers across our State delivering in-home care to older adults and disabled individuals of all ages, allowing them to stay in their homes and communities.

The Alliance is specifically opposed to section 1.1 of this bill, which reads: *Remove the requirement that a personal care agency have a physical site in the State, in a nonresidential building that is zoned for business or, if operating out of a private home or residential setting, located in a separate and distinct space.*

We are concerned that eliminating this requirement could significantly reduce the State's ability to provide effective oversight, particularly if agencies are based out of state. However, we do understand that there may be circumstances where an agency has a physical location close to the Maine border, or where an out-of-state agency may offer a service that is lacking in Maine. To balance oversight with operational flexibility, the Alliance recommends the Department establish a waiver process wherein the Department could determine whether an agency with no physical site in our state should be able to operate in Maine. This would provide a path forward for out-of-state personal care agencies to offer services in Maine, while maintaining appropriate regulatory oversight.

Thank you for your consideration,



Sara Ratcliffe

Executive Director

Home Care & Hospice Alliance of Maine