

Jennifer Marston
GREENE
LD 961

April 23, 2025

Senator Donna Bailey
Representative Kristi Mathieson
Members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee
Room 220
Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Chairman Bailey, Chairman Mathieson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jennifer Marston and I live in Greene, Maine. I am writing today to support LD961, An Act to Address Maine's Health Care Workforce Shortage and Improve Access to Care.

I am writing to express my deep appreciation and support for my Nurse Practitioner, Rebecca Sirka FNP. I have been under her care for the past five years. From our very first appointment, she has demonstrated a level of dedication, compassion, and clinical excellence that has had a profound impact on my health and well-being. While struggling at times to get an appointment, she is still going above and beyond to help in my times of need.

Despite being newly licensed when we first met, she approached my complex medical history with confidence, curiosity, and a commitment to truly understanding my needs. She has played a crucial role in helping me manage both my autoimmune disorder and asthma with thoughtful, individualized care.

One moment that stands out was when I experienced severe pelvic pain and felt unheard by my OB/GYN. My NP not only listened, but also acted. She advocated for me, ordered the necessary tests, and helped me finally receive a diagnosis and the care I needed. Her ability to listen, validate, and follow through has made all the difference.

I am incredibly grateful to have her as part of my care team. Her professionalism and genuine care have made a lasting impact on my health journey.

LD961 is about making it easier for qualified nurse practitioners to do the jobs they've been trained and licensed to do. It removes unnecessary red tape and helps more people in Maine get the care they need—especially in areas where it's hard to find a provider. As a patient, I strongly urge you to support LD961 without hesitation.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Marston