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Testimony in support of LD 1606

To: Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Distinguished members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

I am a constituent of Sen. Marianne Moore of Washington county.

I write in support of LD1606. It is absolutely necessary for the Maine Legislature to provide oversight for constituents receiving life affirming services from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

The Department of Health & Human Services is about to introduce a fundamental reorganization of how vital life affirming services are administered to meet the needs of the state's thousands of residents with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities & Autism.

This bill (LD 1606) will ensure that you and Maine State Reps and Senators can provide the **vital oversight (major substantive)** and examine the actions and **data** that will ensure that the laws are followed and the needs and interests of your disabled constituents are being provided for.

These are uncertain times, With major changes being forced on all states by erratic, unpredictable and irresponsible leadership.

It is naive to hope to that the US/DHHS headed by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr and law breaking slashes of funding by Elon Musk,'s DOGE, will allow federal support of this population to continue unscathed.

You and the Maine Legislature is the only body standing in line to protect our DHHS and our I/DD & A population. This bill give you the tools necessary to hold the line and protect their futures.

Thank you

Vern McKimmey
Lubec