

Cassandra Violette
Turner
LD 1425
May 05, 2025

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Cassandra Violette and I live in Turner.

I am writing to express my strong support for LD 1425, legislation that ensures continued funding and access to trauma recovery services through the Maine Resiliency Center.

As the family member of two victims murdered on October 25, 2023, this bill is deeply personal to me. My four children lost both of their grandparents in one of the most devastating ways imaginable. In the aftermath, our family was left not only grieving but also struggling to cope with the lasting effects of trauma.

As a Registered Nurse, I have cared for patients suffering from PTSD and mental health challenges. Yet I never imagined such pain would strike so close to home. The Maine Resiliency Center has been the only place where my children have felt safe outside our home. My two youngest children—who were only five and eight at the time of the shooting—went nearly a year without trauma-informed therapy due to the lack of resources in our area. It was only through the Resiliency Center that they finally received care appropriate to their needs.

The support we've received from the staff and programs at the center has made a meaningful difference in our healing. My youngest daughter, who still checks locks around the house out of fear, finds peace and comfort when she is at the center—something that cannot be overstated.

We are not alone in this struggle. Though I cannot speak for every family, I know many others rely on the Maine Resiliency Center for the same reasons we do. We are your neighbors, your coworkers, and your community members—still navigating daily life in the shadow of tragedy.

The trauma-informed care, group support, and safe spaces offered by the Resiliency Center are not luxuries; they are necessities for survivors and families still trying to rebuild. The thought of the center closing is heartbreaking, and would be a setback to our recovery and to the health of our community.

Please support LD 1425 and ensure that the Maine Resiliency Center can continue its vital work.

Thank you for your time, your compassion, and your commitment to Maine families.

Sincerely,
Cassandra Violette
Daughter (in law) of Robert and Lucille Violette