An Act to Improve and Access to Sustainable and Low Barrier Trauma Recovery Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Bradock Suetin and I live in Winthrop, Maine (04364). I am here to testify in support of LD 1425, An Act to Improve Access to Sustainable and Low-barrier Trauma Recovery Services.

As a 16 year old and attends Winthrop High School, and someone who has experienced post traumatic stresses from various near death and deadly events. With one major traumatic event that had developed on October 25, 2023, as we all know as the Lewiston Mass Shootings where eighteen people died in that event, including one, who was my classmate Aaron Young, died at the age of 14 at a bowling center in Lewiston. As someone who has nearly died a couple different times, and experiencing the loss of Aaron and multiple close family members, it is more certainly that the Maine Resiliency Center (MRC) has helped me through most of that traumatic stress that has kept me from doing daily activities and necessities throughout daily life.

With multiple other people suffering from PTSD and other related mental illnesses like depression and ADHD. With someone who has benefited from the MRC, others can too. Cutting the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program (AEAP) funding will restrict those people in need, from finding hope from the tragic events on October 25th, this continued AEAP funding will allow the MRC and many other relying crisis centers to help those relying patients and other citizens of Maine who are in need of reliable and supportive help that may not be available in most hospitals or medical office buildings around the state, or the country.

And thus, for these reasons, I urge you to vote for LD 1425, as this would help several Mainers and other people in various parts of the country, and not only me, but those who need the crisis help, of violent and traumatic experiences. I'm happy to answer any questions you would or may have for me.

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Number is generally a quicker and faster way to reach me.