

Testimony in Support of LD 1835 – An Act to Improve Nonemergency MaineCare
Transportation

Provided by: Danny N Loudermilk Jr.

May 9, 2025

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

My name is Dan Loudermilk, and I am the Business Representative for District Lodge 4 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. I represent members across Maine, including the professional drivers of IAM Local S89, who provide public and human services transportation through Kennebec Valley Community Action Program (KVCAP) in the Augusta and Waterville areas.

These drivers connect older adults, people with disabilities, and others with serious health conditions to the care and services they rely on. They provide rides to dialysis, chemotherapy, counseling appointments, and other essential medical care. They know what it means when a ride is missed or delayed, not in theory, but in the real stress it creates for the people they've come to know and care about.

Our members take pride in doing their jobs well, and they see where the system works and where it struggles. LD 1835 responds directly to the pain points with tools that bring structure, visibility, and follow-up to the process.

LD 1835 creates a framework for performance tracking and public accountability that can help strengthen consistency, responsiveness, and coordination across the state.

This bill puts in place tools that make a difference, clear data reporting, an independent ombudsman to help people navigate problems, and a stronger role for local advisory committees. Together, these steps offer a path forward that respects the effort already being made and supports continued improvement where it's needed.

We support LD 1835 because it helps ensure that transportation systems continue to deliver with care, clarity, and accountability, values that our members uphold every day on the road.

I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of LD 1835 and take this important step toward strengthening MaineCare transportation for the people who rely on it and the workers who make it possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support.

Sincerely,

Danny N Loudermilk Jr.

Business Representative

District Lodge 4

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

Danny Loudermilk
Lisbon Falls
LD 1835

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