

Eric Schwan

Lewiston

LD 1932

Dear Committee,

Thank you for hearing my testimony. I have been in the direct support workforce for over 15 years, providing direct support and also supervising the dedicated and hardworking staff who work in this field. Please show your commitment to delivering high-quality service to some of the most vulnerable citizens of our state by guaranteeing the labor components of direct care service rates to 140% of the minimum wage.

High staff turnover due to workers not being paid at a livable wage directly impacts the individuals we support and hurts our society as a whole. These rates need to be adjusted to keep up with the high cost of living in Maine.

Thank you,

Eric Schwan

Support Solutions/Creative Trails