

Testimony in Support of LD 1932

1/20/2026

Dear Senator Ingwenson, Representative Meyer, and honorable members of the Committee,

My name is Christopher James, and I work alongside DSP's, BHP's, and other support professionals, here in Augusta.

I am writing in support of LD 1932.

This bill is important to me because having worked alongside support workers on a daily basis, I have seen these folks in action, and have also seen how their work has a direct and positive effect on our community. These folks are helping people to stay safe, live in their homes, go to work, and be part of their community, all the while carrying out their work with complete professionalism and grace. This work is important and takes skill, patience, and training.

However, many people leave this field because the pay is not enough to live on. I have seen great coworkers leave for jobs that pay more and are less stressful. When staff leave, it has a negative effect on those who receive support, and puts more pressure on the staff who stay.

This makes burnout very common.

LD 1932 would help by supporting better pay and training for these essential workers. This would help people stay in their jobs longer and provide more stable care to clients and families.

I want to see these essential workers be treated with the respect and dignity that our community owes them, and I want to see this field grow stronger and our community members properly cared for.

It is for these reasons I strongly urge you to support LD 1932.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christopher James

Augusta

LD 1932

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