

Taylor Whalen
Lewiston, ME
LD 1932

Senator, Representative, and members of the Committee,

My name is Taylor Whalen and I work as a DSP at Gallant Therapy Services out of the Augusta location. I am writing in support of LD 1932.

I love my job and the people I support. My work helps people stay safe, live in their homes, go to work, and be part of their community. 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 hurts the people we 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 workers like me. This would help people stay in their jobs longer and provide more stable care to clients and families.

I want to keep doing this work, and I want to see this field grow stronger. Please support LD 1932.

Thank you for your time and for listening.

Sincerely,^[1-]_[SEP]

Taylor Whalen

^[1-]_[SEP]Direct Support Professional^[1-]_[SEP]

Augusta, Maine