

Jamie Lajoie
Berwick
LD 2074

I have already sent a request into providing testimony in support of LD 2074. Can you please add this for my written testimony:

Testimony of Jamie P. Lajoie

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

LD 2074– HP 1387, An Act to Update the Requirements for Social Worker Licensure]”

Date: January 27, 2026

Representative Mastraccio, and Honorable Members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee

My name is Jamie Lajoie, and I am a resident of Berwick, Maine and Currently employed with the State of Maine DHHS (CPS). I am here today to express my SUPPORT for LD 2074 An Act to Update the Requirements for Social Worker Licensure.

This bill is extremely important for me and others who want to work for the State of Maine as a Social Worker. I personally have had to experience a very unfortunate situation, due to the discrepancies of what College Degree has and has not been accepted by the Social Work Board for not meeting the Educational Requirements to obtain a Social Work License. Back in June of 2025, I applied for an Investigations Caseworker position with DHHS Child Protective Servies, out of the Biddeford, Maine office. I went through a very extensive hiring process. During the hiring process I disclosed and provided poof of my completed Bachelor of Science Criminal Justice degree from Husson University. I was told during the hiring process that Criminal Justice Degrees have been accepted to meet the Educational Requirements. I successfully completed the hiring and background process and was offered the caseworker position. I then attended the Mandatory seven-week Caseworker training, from July 2025 to September 2025. I completed this training and I was ready to serve the citizens of the great State of Maine. In October of 2025, I learned that my Social Work License was denied because my Criminal Justice Degree did not meet the Educational Requirements. With outstanding and overwhelming support from my superiors and co-workers at the Biddeford office, I was able to apply and become a Department Case Aide.

I believe LD 2074 will have a positive impact within the State. It will allow the Social Work board to approve highly qualified individuals that want to become Social Workers in the State of Maine as they will meet the educational requirements that are outlined in LD 2074.

I respectfully urge the committee to vote ought to pass on LD 2074. Thank you for your time and for your service to the people of Maine.

Sincerely,

Jamie Lajoie