

Anne Conners  
Cushing  
LD 2212

To: Members of the Appropriation and Financial Affairs and Health and Human Services Committee

From: Anne Conners, Cushing, Maine

Re: Additional Investment in Older Mainers Needed in Supplemental Budget

Hello,

My name is Anne Conners, and I live in Cushing, Maine. I am also a board member of Spectrum Generations, representing Knox County.

I have seen first hand the lifesaving benefits that Maine's AAA's provide. At a low cost, these services help older adults remain safely at home. The AAA's are a proven service; many studies show that they reduce hospitalizations, ED visits, and nursing home placements. This saves the state money in the long term.

The current supplemental budget includes no additional funding for these essential services. Thank you very much for last year's one-time investment. Because of it, a projected 9,000 older Mainers are receiving services, including an additional 500 Meals on Wheels recipients.

My 93-year-old mother receives Meals on Wheels and putting this service in place was critical in her safe discharge from a nursing home to her own home. I am grateful daily that my mother is receiving this support.

I urge you to continue ongoing funding in this supplemental budget. Thank you very much for your consideration and for making this cost-effective, life changing investment in Maine's older residents.

Sincerely,

Anne Conners  
Board of Directors  
Spectrum Generations  
Resident of Cushing, ME