



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1440  
MAINE RELAY 711

**Michael H. Lemelin**

313 Hallowell Road  
Chelsea, ME 04330  
Michael.Lemelin@legislature.maine.gov  
Residence: (207) 798-9399

*Testimony of Rep. Michael Lemelin introducing*  
**LD 825 An Act Relating To Transportation Services for  
Mainecare members with Multiple Disabilities.**

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

Good morning, Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer and esteemed members of the Health and Human Services Committee. My name is Representative Michael Lemelin of Chelsea representing House District 53. I am here to present **LD 825 An Act Relating To Transportation Services for Mainecare members with Multiple Disabilities.**

There are currently serious issues in the transportation of individuals with multiple disabilities. So, I am asking that we place them in a separate category from people without those same needs. As of now drivers show up to a client's house unprepared for the individuals special needs. For example, if the person has a wheelchair a driver shows up in a vehicle that is not prepared or large enough to transport the chair, or the driver says, "the chairs not going, is it"? Also, many individuals with disabilities need consistency in drivers due to their special needs which gives them unnecessary anxiety. On occasion, a driver shows up that is unable to care for the individual in the case of an emergency.

I find these issues are unacceptable and can be easily remedied. Without this bill the provider can use multiple excuses to prevent solving these issues. Currently a computer program is used which does

not take into account the person's specific needs, or the extra time it takes to get the individual settled in the car. Although the paperwork say the person's special needs, often the driver arrives without knowledge of the individual's needs.

I ask for your support in solving these issues. '