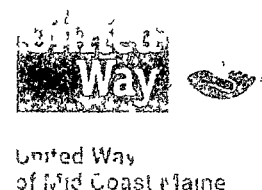


United Way of Mid Coast Maine
34 Wing Farm Parkway #201 • Bath ME 04530
Tel: 207-253-3750
uw.mcm.org
nic@uw.mcm.org



Testimony in Support of LD 1799: An Act to Expand Maine's High-Quality Early Learning and Care for Children by Increasing Public Preschool Opportunities in Communities

May 10, 2023

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, my name is Nicole Evans and I am the Executive Director of United Way of Mid Coast Maine. On behalf of our organization, I'd like to express our support for LD 1799.

Maine has made steady progress in public preschool expansion. Today, we have the opportunity to provide the best start for children for generations to come.

Let's ensure every child, family, and community has access to public pre-K. Let's work to support and value those who we trust to care for and educate our children. Let's provide full-day public pre-K to support working families, and help organizations and businesses secure a sustainable workforce today while building tomorrow's thriving economy.

Together, we can help public schools, child care centers, family child care and Head Start programs meet the needs of children, families, and communities.

Thank you for working to help ensure Maine's future leaders have the support they need to succeed, and thank you for your consideration to support and pass LD 1799.

We are grateful for your service.