

Margaret Craven 41 Russell Street Lewiston, ME 04240 (207) 783-1897 Margaret.Craven@legislature.maine.gov HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002 (207) 287-1400 TTY: Maine Relay 711

January 24, 2024

Testimony of Representative Margaret Craven introducing LD 2125, An Act to Establish the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias Advisory Council Within the Department of Health and Human Services and to Require a State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias Before the Health and Human Services Committee

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer and fellow members of the Health and Human Services Committee, my name is Margaret Craven, and I represent House District 93, which includes part of Lewiston. I am here today to present LD 2125, An Act to Establish the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias Advisory Council Within the Department of Health and Human Services and to Require a State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias.

This bill establishes the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias Advisory Council, which would examine the needs of individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, the services available in the State for those individuals and the ability of health care providers and facilities to meet current and future needs.

The Maine CDC would be the entity responsible for creating the council.

The bill directs the council to develop a state plan to address Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, which would be required to be updated and reissued every five years. Additionally, the council would be tasked with submitting an annual report on the implementation of the plan, including any recommendations or barriers to implementation, to the governor and the legislature.

There are stakeholders here today who are better positioned to speak to the needs of this bill, so I would ask that you hold your questions for those advocates who are with us this afternoon.

Thank you for your time and attention.