

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Gergana Yorgova-Rosencranse, I am from Kennebunk, and I am writing in support of LD 2084 and the need for funding to maintain essential victim services in Maine.

I was a participant of CU program, which helped women who suffered domestic violence. CU helped me and my children during some very difficult time for us. We found support such as support and information about resources for emotional and psychological support. I met with other women, who suffered similar violence, and during the provided session, I found myself more confident and encouraged to live and move on with my misery.

CU provided many great moments during Christmas and made sure that me and my children had great celebrations. I loved the Christmas celebrations before and after COVID started. Caring Unlimited also made sure that women and children who needed help had great times during the summer, especially when they organized many fun summer events. I was given the opportunity to apply for scholarship when I pursued my career as a nurse, and CU became my sponsor in this process. Thank to the financial support of CU, now I can care for vulnerable populations.

I believe that if the budget for CU gets cut, many women and children will not have the chance of using resources and support which I and my children had. I do want to believe that people can understand what domestic violence means to women and children. Without the funding, many survivors of DV may become victims of a long-term violence. Without the support of CU, many families will increase their insecurities and they will not be able to manage their mental health properly.

I believe in your objective judgement and hope that there will not be cut of funding for CU.