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Testimony of Representative Dan Shagoury introducing
LD 51, An Act to Increase Oversight of Fatalities of and Serious Injuries to Adults Subject to Public Guardianship
Before the Health and Human Services Committee

Good afternoon, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. I am glad to present to you today **LD 51, An Act to Increase Oversight of Fatalities of and Serious Injuries to Adults Subject to Public Guardianship.**

I was happy to submit this bill on behalf of the Department following our discussions over the last few years about adults subject to public guardianship. This bill would add deaths of adults under public guardianship to the deaths reviewed and investigated by the Aging and Disability Mortality Review Panel (ADM RP).

As many of you remember, the Legislature established the Review Panel in 2021 and charged it with reviewing death and serious injury to all Maine adults receiving home and community-based services. The Panel also analyzes mortality trends in these populations to identify strengths and weaknesses of the system of care and makes recommendations on ways to decrease the rate of mortality and improve the system of protection for adults receiving services.

The bill also adds important perspectives to the panel by increasing membership. Expanding the charge and membership of the Panel will enhance this charge and help to further protect one of Maine's vulnerable populations.

I hope you will join me in supporting this bill. The Department will follow my testimony to further explain this proposal and take any of your questions. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.