



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1400  
TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

## **Kelly Noonan Murphy**

5 Woodfield Drive  
Scarborough, ME 04074  
Phone: (207) 318-3215  
[Kelly.murphy@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Kelly.murphy@legislature.maine.gov)

March 12, 2025

*Testimony of Kelly Noonan Murphy introducing*

### **LD 99, An Act to Clarify Information Sharing Between the Department of Health and Human Services and Schools with Respect to investigations of Child Abuse or Neglect**

*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

Good morning, Sen. Ingwersen, Rep. Meyer and members of the Health and Human Services Committee. My name is Rep. Kelly Murphy and I represent District 125, which includes part of Scarborough. Today, I am here to introduce a bill from the Department of Education, **LD 99, An Act to Clarify Information Sharing Between the Department of Health and Human Services and Schools with Respect to investigations of Child Abuse or Neglect.**

This bill clarifies that an investigation team of the Department of Health and Human Services may share information with the superintendent of a school administrative unit, the chief administrator of a private school or a public school not in a school administrative unit when there is an indicated or substantiated finding of out-of-home child abuse or neglect against an employee of or a student of that institution.

The Department of Education has worked closely with DHHS to craft language that will begin to close this information gap and place the administrator of the school, as the head of agency, in direct communication with investigators.

The Department of Education will present testimony on this bill, and I respectfully request that you defer any specific questions regarding the content to them. I look forward to working with you as the committee deliberates the bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill.