

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony of Representative Michele Meyer presenting LD 764, An Act to Improve the Efficiency of Certain Department of Health and Human Services Licensing Investigations

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

Senator Ingwersen, and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. I am glad to present LD 764, An Act to Improve the Efficiency of Certain Department of Health and Human Services Licensing Investigations.

I submitted this bill on behalf of the Department because it seeks to strengthen the Division of Licensing and Certification's efforts to complete investigations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults in a timely fashion.

Currently, DLC is not able to obtain records related to licensure violation investigations from agencies and entities that do not have current licensure from DLC. This bill would change that by granting the Department the ability to issue a subpoena to obtain records and testimony relevant to an investigation. This change would be consistent with authority already established in accordance with the Adult Protective Services Act and with other professional licensure boards.

It is absolutely crucial that we do everything in our power to protect Maine's most vulnerable populations, and this bill is one simple way to do that.

The Department will follow my testimony to further explain this proposal and to take any questions you may have.