

March 17, 2025

*Re: LD 834: An Act to Update the State Supplement to
Supplemental Security Income*

Dear Senator Ingerswen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the
Committee on Health and Human Services:

I am here to testify in support to LD 834.

My name is Kile Pelletier. I am a self-advocate for Aroostook County Area. I have been on the board of Speaking Up For Us, I am also now working for Disability Rights Maine.

I am here to support the bill on raising the asset limit. I have SSDI and the asset limit has been the same since 1989.

The asset limit for people with disabilities on social security has not been changed on the state level. The asset limit is so you are only receiving \$8- it is a shame for people with disabilities. We are trying to make our lives better and make ends meet. If we don't get a little push, a little extra money from our asset limit, we will be stuck and struggling to keep up with the times.

In Maine and the US, people are struggling, including people with disabilities, due to the cost of living. The asset limit always stays the same. It is time to make a change and raise the asset limit on the state level so people with disabilities will have a chance to make ends meet in their own lives.

Raising the asset limit will provide me with the ability to save money for future costs. I would use this is a down payment on a home, save money for college for my future children, payments on a new car.

I urge you to vote in favor of LD 834.