

March 18, 2025

*Re: LD 800: An Act Regarding Access to Behavioral Health
Supports for Adults with Certain Disabilities*

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

I am here to testify in support to LD 800: An Act Regarding Access to
Behavioral Health Supports for Adults with Certain Disabilities.

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 got involved with DRM, Speaking Up for US, and the DD Council after I
graduated from High School and after I finished Job Core. It gave me a lot
of knowledge as a person with a disability to be a strong self-advocate.
Having these allies made me a strong person to go out and do these
testimonies as I do today. I provide trainings to other agencies and
programs. I owe a big thank you to the DD Network to providing information
and trainings. We need to continue this funding so young people can go on
to become a strong advocate like myself and other self-advocates.

This funding helps people a lot to have someone they can talk to at
Disability Rights Maine. Their advocate can connect them with other
services. Without this funding people with disabilities won't get the services
they need.

As self-advocates, we rely on Disability Rights Maine, it's a part of the DD
Network. If you don't increase the funding, then what part of our lives would
we have when we can't be strong advocates.

I urge you to vote in support of LD 800. Thank you.