

Rick Ness 12 Front Street Brunswick, Me, retired West End News  
Portland, Board Member Spectrum Generations.

Thank you for your service to you State , Communities and time today.

I am here to ask for your support f LD 814 Older Mainers Act

Maine currently has a large % of older citizens and hopefully you will all  
become one day. I also hope that you will have the resources to enjoy  
your life where you choose to live. Many do Not.

Area Agencies on Aging provide necessary services to older adults and  
those with disabilities that allow them to exist but also have some  
quality of life, respect and dignity they deserve . Help from family  
members is not sufficient.

I understand there are many pressing needs that you need to address  
and that financial resources are not without limit. This is an issue that  
effects everyone: our parents and grandparents, us when we need time  
off work to help and eventually when we get there ourselves. We can  
even hope that our children will eventually reach old age someday.  
Much of this is going to require not only financial resources but  
innovation. It is impossible for agencies to innovate when in survival  
mode.

Increasingly cost responsibility to take care of our own is going be born  
by states, municipalities, and non- profits. Who is better equipped than  
local people serving in Area Agencies on Aging to do this important  
work?

I was told, I should have a quick story.

Some time back in a previous occupation I spent time visiting older (octogenarians) in nursing homes. One day I will never forget, 3 people in 3 different facilities told me the exact same thing:

“ every night I go to bed hoping I do not wake up in the morning”

Is that “ Life the way it should be”?

I hope you will vote to pass LD 814 and not let it die in appropriations.

Thank you.

So these agencies can  
continue this important work