



Joseph Baldacci
Senator, District 9

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Testimony in Support of LD 1442: Resolve, Regarding Personal Care Agency Licensing Rules

April 17, 2025

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Committee on Health and Human Services:

I am Senator Joe Baldacci and I represent Senate District 9 - Bangor and Hermon in Penobscot County. I present the bill in front of you on behalf of the Maine Association of Personal Care Agencies.

In the 131st Legislature, this committee contemplated LD 636: An Act to Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to License and Ensure the Quality of Personal Care Agencies. That bill passed this committee unanimously, and the Department began the process of promulgating rules to license PCAs. After a number of listening sessions and a public hearing on the rules, licensing began in August 2024. While the Department received and modified the initially proposed rules based on feedback from the agencies during the public hearing, there are still portions of the rules that don't appear to work for all PCAs. The bill in front of you is designed to make modifications to fix that.

I have heard over and over from the Personal Care Agencies that they appreciate the work done by this committee and the Department to implement the licensing process. Licensing ensures that a standard is set and that Mainers receive appropriate care.

There are many folks coming behind me who know significantly more about the inner workings of the business of personal care, and I'm not going to purport to know specifics about the rules. What I do know is that the folks here in the room and their staff who are working throughout the state to care for older Mainers and others in need in their homes are extremely dedicated to ensuring that people can live longer, healthier



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lives in their own homes. The work that they do keeps people out of hospitals and nursing homes and allows their family members to go to work and also have lives outside of giving care to their loved ones.

Bev Uhlenhake, Government Affairs Consultant at Pierce Atwood and representative of the Maine Association of Personal Care Agencies, will be able to walk you through the details of the bill in front of you. She will be followed by others who can give concrete examples of why certain modifications within the licensing rules are warranted.

Thank you for your time and consideration as you hear more about this bill. I'm happy to take any questions you might have, noting that it's likely that someone behind me will need to answer them later.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Joseph Baldacci
District 9 – Bangor and Hermon