

Testimony in Support of LD 1743 – An Act Regarding MaineCare Waiting Lists

by Kim Humphrey, MPH

Mother of an adult son with profound autism

Founder & President, Community Connect Maine

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

My name is Kim Humphrey, from Auburn. I am the Founder and President of Community Connect Maine and mother of a son living in Lewiston who has spent 8 years on the section 21 waitlist. I'm here today to strongly support LD 1743.

This bill recognizes a simple truth: **none of us know how many days we get in this life—and waiting on a list for basic services is not a good way to spend any of them.** For adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), the time lost waiting for daily support can mean losing skills, interesting activities, and hard-won progress.

These individuals work incredibly hard in school to develop the abilities others may take for granted. But when they need support beyond the school system, they often wait—**sometimes for years**—for the services they need to live, learn, and participate in the community. During this time, skills can fade, families remain in limbo, and people are put at risk of harm, burnout, and neglect. This is not just unfair—it is costly to the system in the long term and devastating to the people that need support.

LD 1743 sets a six-month limit on wait times for services under MaineCare. If this had been true for my son, he would have only spent 6 months out of state instead of 8 and a half years.

If the system fails to meet that limit, the Department of Health and Human Services must submit a corrective action plan to the Legislature within three months.. This is **reasonable, responsible, and necessary.**

Please pass LD 1743. It's a step toward accountability, cost-efficiency, and the promotion of health and well-being for some of Maine's most vulnerable residents. **Every day matters.**

Sincerely,



Kim Humphrey, MPH
Founder & President

Community Connect Maine
Mother of Daniel

Auburn