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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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May 9, 2025

*Testimony of Rep. Flavia DeBrito introducing*

**LD 1799, Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Review the Progressive Treatment Program and Processes by Which a Person May Be Involuntarily Admitted to a Psychiatric Hospital or Receive Court-ordered Community Treatment**

*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

Good Morning, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and esteemed colleagues of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Flavia DeBrito and I represent House District 64, which includes parts of Waterville and Winslow. I am here today to present **LD 1799, Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Review the Progressive Treatment Program and Processes by Which a Person May Be Involuntarily Admitted to a Psychiatric Hospital or Receive Court-ordered Community Treatment.**

It is understood that a similar working group convened a few years ago and produced beneficial recommendations, which were subsequently implemented. This is one of the reasons for introducing LD 1799. This resolve directs the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to gather a stakeholder group of interested parties to review the entire process linked with a progressive treatment program in line with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, section 3873-A. It also calls for an examination of the efficiency and effectiveness of the processes by which a person can be involuntarily admitted to a psychiatric hospital or receive court-ordered community treatment as per Title 34-B, chapter 3, subchapter 4, article 3.

The commissioner is expected to submit a report comprised of recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by no later than December 3, 2025. The committee is then authorized to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature related to the recommendations in the report. Following behind me, Adam Bloom-Paicopolos, Executive Director of Alliance for Addiction and Mental Health Services and Maine Behavioral Health Foundation, will provide additional details and is available to answer any potential questions.

Thank you for your time and I'm looking forward to working with you on LD 1799.

District 64: Parts of Waterville and Winslow