

Marianne Moore Senator, District 6 THE MAINE SENATE 132nd Legislature 3 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

LD 1955, "An Act to Increase Child Care Affordability and Early Childhood Educator Stability" Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services May 15, 2025

Good morning, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Esteemed Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. I am Senator Moore representing my home communities in Washington County. I am testifying in support of LD 1955, "An Act to Increase Child Care Affordability and Early Childhood Educator Stability" which I joined on to cosponsor because I know the need for child care is great in rural areas like mine.

The Legislature has made great investments in the child care sector over my time in service. This bill protects those investments and makes small changes to ensure they are helping the people we intend to reach.

Through this bill, we also improve CTE pathways through scholarship and apprenticeships so Maine's early educators have professional development opportunities throughout their careers.

I believe this bill is a commonsense next step for our commitment to Maine's kids and I hope the committee will support it. Thank you and I welcome questions.