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STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
PROSECUTORIAL DISTRICT IV

January 14, 2026

Good Afternoon Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Distinguished Members of the Health and Human Services Committee. My name is Maeghan Maloney I am the District Attorney for Kennebec and Somerset counties. I am here today to testify in strong support of LD 1989, An Act to Increase Access to the Progressive Treatment Program Fund.

This bill is critical because it expands access to funding for mental health care providers who deliver Progressive Treatment Programs. These programs are proven to help individuals with severe mental illness maintain stability, avoid hospitalization, and live healthier lives in their communities.

As a District Attorney, I see firsthand the intersection of untreated mental illness and the criminal justice system. Too often, individuals with severe mental health conditions cycle through jails and courts—not because they are dangerous criminals, but because they lack consistent access to treatment. This is costly, ineffective, and inhumane.

The Progressive Treatment Program offers a proven alternative: structured, court-approved treatment plans that keep people stable in the community rather than incarcerated. However, the current funding limitations make it difficult for medical providers to initiate or renew these programs, leaving gaps that put both the individual and the public at risk. LD 1989 addresses this gap by ensuring that providers can be reimbursed for both initiating and renewing Progressive Treatment Programs. This change will improve continuity of care, reduce costly emergency and criminal interventions, and strengthen Maine's mental health system. It is not only compassionate—it is fiscally responsible.

I urge you to support LD 1989 and help Maine lead the way in providing sustainable, effective mental health care. Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maeghan Maloney".

Maeghan Maloney
District Attorney