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*Testimony of Representative Michele Meyer presenting
LD 2083, An Act to Expand Access to Certified Residential
Medication Aide Training*

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

Senator Ingwersen and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, as you well know, I am Representative Michele Meyer. I am here to present LD 2083, An Act to Expand Access to Certified Residential Medication Aide Training. I have sponsored this bill on behalf of the Division of Licensing and Certification within the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

This legislation would clarify what types of facilities and/or agencies may use Certified Residential Medication Aide (CRMA) training to allow unlicensed staff to administer medications within a facility. CRMA training is designed for unlicensed workers, and successful completion of the course satisfies departmental training requirements for workers who wish to pass medications in certain assisted housing programs.

This bill directs DHHS to issue a certificate to an individual who has successfully completed a department-approved certified residential medication aide course that meets the training requirements in accordance with rules established by the department for certain facilities. Additionally, the bill requires the department to review the course curriculum at least every 5 years and allows the department to establish by rule certification fees and sanction fees for certified residential medication aides and instructors.

These changes will help to expand access to CRMA training, increase CRMA capacity, and alleviate some workforce challenges in residential facilities. It will also ensure consistency in medication administration, competency, and instruction.

The Department will follow my testimony and provide further context regarding the need for this bill. I ask that you hold your questions for the subject matter experts and that you join me in supporting this bill. Thank you.