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Testimony of the Division of Licensing and Certification
Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

In support of LD 2083, *An Act to Expand Access to Certified Residential Medication Aide Training*

Sponsor: Representative Meyer
Hearing Date: January 27, 2026

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Bill Montejo, and I serve as the Office Director of the Division of Licensing and Certification (DLC) in the Maine Department of Health and Human Services and I am here today to testify in support of LD 2083, *An Act to Expand Access to Certified Residential Medication Aide Training*.

This bill will establish clear authority for the department to establish rules for Certified Residential Medication Aide Training (CRMA), and testing of unlicensed assistive personnel under Title 32, section 2102, to administer certain medications in licensed settings. It authorizes the creation of rules for certification of course instructors and clarifies the expectations for the course is to ensure safe and competent medication administration.

Passage of the bill provides for clear authority of the department to establish rules for the certification, decertification and competency evaluation of individuals who will administer medications in these facilities and the instructors who train and certify them. This is important to expand access to CRMA training, increase CRMA capacity, alleviate some workforce challenges in residential facilities and ensure consistency in medication administration competency and instruction.

While the department does have facility rules that address medication administration in licensed facilities, it does not have clear authority to certify the individuals administering the medications or the instructors who conduct and provide the training. The bill will establish a regular schedule for reviewing and updating course curriculum, as well as a process for revising that content and the certification process to address changes in medication needs and administration competencies within these settings. Development of rules related to CRMA training will allow the Department to decertify trainers and/or individual CRMAs when serious instances of incompetence are identified and will result in improved health and safety for individuals receiving medication administration services in licensed settings. The department does intend to engage with the Board of Nursing as it works to establish these rules and certification processes to ensure continuity with quality clinical services in medication administration and the development of a process to address changes in medication administration competencies.

Finally, the department intends to pursue utilization of a learning management system for hybrid training options and ensure security of testing evaluation materials.

Thank you for your time and attention. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have and to make myself available for questions at the work session.