

**Testimony of Dan Wildes for the Maine State Chamber of Commerce
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor
“An Act to Amend the Requirements Governing Self-insurance Plans in
the Paid Family Medical Leave Benefits Program”**

LD 2018

January 27, 2026

My name is Dan Wildes and I am representing Kodiak Steel. We are a small business located in Clinton Maine.

We object to LD2018 because it will limit our company's ability to efficiently manage the expenses related to the Paid Family Medical Leave Act. Like most small businesses, every penny counts and being prohibited to make efficient business decisions while providing a much needed employee benefit will damage our business. LD2018 will reduce our bottom line and directly reduce our pool of money that is used to reward each employee through our bonus plan.

Since the Paid Family Medical Leave Act was enacted there have been numerous attempts to change, alter, and tweak the program. None of these changes were accepted because the intent was to let the program perform as it was written. LD2018 should not be an exception to that direction.

Prohibiting a buying group has no rational purpose with respect to providing PFMLA benefits.

MDOL's attempt to change the law now to legitimize its unlawful actions is alarming and undermines the confidence in the PFMLA.