



Northern Light Health
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**LD 2166 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 6: Delegation of Nursing Activities and Tasks to Unlicensed Assistive Personnel by Registered Professional Nurses, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, State Board of Nursing
Testimony in Support
February 11, 2026**

Northern Light Health
Acadia Hospital
A.R. Gould Hospital
Blue Hill Hospital
C.A. Dean Hospital
Eastern Maine Medical Center
Home Care & Hospice
Inland Hospital
Maine Coast Hospital
Mayo Hospital
Mercy Hospital
Northern Light Health Foundation
Northern Light Pharmacy
Sebasticook Valley Hospital

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson and members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee, my name is Nicole Chadwick RN and I am providing testimony in support of this bill on behalf of Northern Light Health and our member organizations. I serve as the Vice President of Education and Preparedness for three Northern Light Health hospitals – Northern Light Mayo Hospital, CA Dean Hospital and Sebasticook Valley Hospital.

I am a Registered Nurse with 31 years of clinical experience in Maine working in rural hospitals. Rural hospitals, along with all rural health care settings, are under significant pressure that is unprecedented in my experience. Hospitals are closing, clinical staffing is challenging and the financial difficulties we experience caring for a rural population will continue into the foreseeable future. Nurses must be allowed to practice to the full extent of our knowledge and skills, delegation to unlicensed assistive personnel is a component of our professional practice. In my role as a nurse educator preparing nursing students for their profession, I teach them about delegation and the RN responsibility for safe care.

Northern Light CA Dean Hospital is one of the smallest hospitals in Maine with only 15 beds in our facility. Given the small number of beds, we also have a small number of nurses and support staff in the facility. Delegation of tasks to unlicensed assistive personnel will allow us to care for patients as a team with nursing judgement and clinical decision making leading the way to safe care for everyone.

At Northern Light Mayo Hospital our patient safety technicians (who are unlicensed assistive personnel) stay with patients who are at risk of falling. They are assigned with 1:1 staffing meaning one technician to one patient. Since the Board of Nursing has not been able to formally adopt the RN delegation to UAP rule, the technicians are not allowed to assist the patient with personal care or other activities of daily living. Each and every time the technician must call for assistance from nursing staff due to the regulatory barrier. These staff can perform delegated tasks safely; we need your support to approve this bill and allow us to delegate based on our judgement to provide safe care.

Your support for this bill provides nurses like me in rural communities along with nurses throughout the State of Maine with personnel support to care for our patients in a safe and professionally appropriate manner. Thank you.