



**Alliance for Addiction and Mental Health Services, Maine**  
*The unified voice for Maine's community behavioral health providers*

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**Testimony in Support of**

***An Act to Prevent Negative Impacts from Federal Funding Changes to and Fund Eligibility Determinations and Outreach for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – LD 2122***

March 5, 2026

Good afternoon, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and honorable members of the Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Adam Bloom-Paicopolos. I am a resident of Wells and am proud to serve as the Executive Director of the Alliance for Addiction and Mental Health Services, Maine (the Alliance). The Alliance is the statewide association representing 35 of Maine's community-based behavioral health agencies who provide mental health and substance use services to over 120,000 children, adults, and families annually.

**On behalf of the Alliance, I am here today to speak in support of LD 2122, "An Act to Prevent Negative Impacts from Federal Funding Changes to and Fund Eligibility Determinations and Outreach for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program."**

Community behavioral health providers witness every day how food insecurity and unstable access to basic needs intersect with behavioral health outcomes. When an individual or family lacks consistent access to food, the associated stress and anxiety can cause additional trauma, exacerbate symptoms, and impede treatment.

Conversely, when basic needs such as food security are reliably met, individuals and families are far better positioned to engage in services, adhere to treatment plans, maintain employment, and remain stably housed. As this Committee has consistently heard, the impacts of HR.1 threaten this stability.

LD 2122 takes important steps to strengthen Maine's SNAP infrastructure. It helps ensure that eligible Mainers receive assistance without undue denials or delays, enhances community-based outreach programs, and establishes contingency funding to ensure eligible Mainers continue to receive their full SNAP benefits. LD 2122 will preserve access to essential nutrition and bolster community capacity to reach families so that food insecurity does not escalate into intensive behavioral health emergencies.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to support LD 2122. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony this afternoon. I would be happy to answer any questions from the Committee.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Bloom-Paicopolos".

Adam Bloom-Paicopolos, MPP  
Executive Director