

Christopher Hopper
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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing you to express my concern with the bill LD529 regarding the assistance with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. As a new parent of a child with Cystic Fibrosis, it is important to me that this gets renewed. Raising a child can have its stresses, as many of us know. Raising a child with CF can add to that. Adding in a financial burden can make it even harder. This bill allows for families to have some relief when it comes to raising their child. It may not be much, but it is enough to help. Did you know that insurance in Maine does not cover in vitro for families, even if you know you have the potential to have a child with CF? Now I'm not sure how realistic it is for many middle-class families to afford in vitro, but I would assume it's not realistic. Our family decided to take the chance to have a child that would share our dna naturally, knowing their was a 25% chance that they would have CF. We love our son Franky, he is the best thing to ever happen to us. The fact that we couldn't get coverage for an unaffordable means to have a child without CF, and now have many bills to face involving Cystic Fibrosis, only makes us more energized to help make a difference. This bill helps Maine families, similar to mine, feel the support that we all should feel when it comes to wanting to keep their child healthy. Your vote matters and could make a difference for many lives. I ask that you put yourself in the shoes of a parent that has a child with medical needs. We are not asking for a significant handout; we are hardworking people. All we ask is for some reprieve so that we all continue to raise our children to the best of our abilities. Thank you for your time and support.

Best,
The Hopper Family