

April 14, 2021

Senator Breen
Representative Millett
Senator Claxton
Representatives Brennan, Craven, and Warren
Health and Human Services Committee
State House
Augusta ME 04332

Re LD197 Resolve to Ensure that Community Mental Health Service Providers Can Access Pandemic Stimulus Funds

Dear Senator Breen, Representative Millett, Senator Claxton, Representatives Brennan, Craven and Warren, and HHS Committee members:

The Maine Psychological Association (MePA) is a membership organization representing psychologists in Maine who work in private practice, at Maine's colleges and universities, and in the public sector. Our mission is to advance psychology as a science, as a profession, and as a means of promoting health and human welfare.

MePA supports LD197 to require the Department of Health and Human Services to designate \$15,000,000 of federal COVID-19 stimulus funding allocated to the State, pursuant to a federal law, for community mental health providers, including psychologists.

Expanding access to psychological treatment, psychotherapy, and other mental health services will have a far-reaching positive impact on health outcomes for generations. Thank you for your attention to this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Thomas Cooper, PsyD

President