Brian Noble Branches, LLC

I would like to express my support for LD 878 Resolve. Currently DSPs are funded in the rate at \$11.21 an hour and minimum wage in Bangor is \$12.15 an hour. The agency I work for has a pay range of \$12.15 an hour to \$14.16 an hour. The agency currently has 20 full time openings and one part time opening. Due to these shortages in staff the agency has not been able to fill any of the five open beds they have. We are unable to compete with other businesses for staff due to the low reimbursement rate. Currently McDonalds on Broadway in Bangor is advertising to pay full time employees \$14.00 an hour and part time is \$13.00 an hour. This increase in pay would allow the agency to compete with other businesses in the area.