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**Testimony of Representative Kristen Cloutier
in support of LD 149, An Act To Facilitate Licensure for Credentialed
Individuals from Other Jurisdictions
before the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic
Advancement and Business**

Senator Curry, Representative Roberts and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, I am Representative Kristen Cloutier and I am here today to present LD 149 “An Act to Facilitate Licensure for Credentialed Individuals from Other Jurisdictions.”

This bill is the outcome of Resolve 2019 c 79 which directed the Commissioner of DPFR to form the Working Group to Study Barriers to Credentialing to assess impediments to professional licensure for skilled individuals with foreign credentials and individuals from other states applying for Maine licensure. The report identified obstacles and made recommendations to enable foreign credentialed, foreign skilled and out of state license holders to become a part of Maine’s workforce and economy.

While I was not involved in that study, I have been deeply engaged in conversations around these issues within my own district of Lewiston while both a municipal and state official. While

I'd be happy to share my own experiences at another time, I'd like to cede my remaining time today to Anne Head, the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation, so that she may give you a more detailed explanation of the bill.

Thank you.