

Julia Harper
Lewiston, Maine
April 23, 2025

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and Honorable Members of the Labor Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony before the Committee. My name is Julia Harper, I'm a resident of Lewiston and a working mom. **I am in opposition to the bills before the committee today: LD406; LD539; LD952; LD1169; LD1221; LD1249; LD1273; LD1307; LD1333; LD1400; and LD 1712.**

I support Maine's Paid Family Leave Program and wish to give the carefully crafted program time to work and become financially solvent before making changes.

Paid leave is an essential survival tool for working moms like me to financially support my family without worrying about sacrificing our basic security when I or a family member inevitably falls ill and requires care. If Maine wants to keep and attract more working families, this program - supported overwhelmingly by voters and successful in just 13 other states - I believe is key to doing so.

I do not support LD406, LD539, LD1273 which seek to repeal the program.

I do not support LD952, LD1400, LD1249, LD1333, and LD1712 which would creates harmful carve outs and delays.

I do not support LD 1169, LD 1307, and LD 1712 which would create solvency risks.

I do not support LD1221, which is wasteful and unnecessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee that Maine needs Paid Family Leave and it needs a chance to work before making changes. **I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills.**

Thank you!