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Laura A. Fortman
COMMISSIONER

To: Senator Craig Hickman, Chair
Representative Mike Sylvester, Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing

From: Isaac Gingras, Legislative Liaison, Maine Department of Labor

Date: May 5, 2021

Re: L.D. 898, An Act To Provide Incentives to Unemployed Workers To Become Part of the
Caregiver Workforce

While the Department is not testifying in person on this bill, we wanted to provide a brief letter in regard to LD 898, An Act To Provide Incentives to Unemployed Workers To Become Part of the Caregiver Workforce.

Currently, the Department is still reviewing the language of the proposal but recognizes there would be broad implications for the Department's Bureau of Unemployment Compensation and Bureau of Employment Services. We are reviewing the legislation and will provide more substantive comments for the work session. Since the bill interacts with the Unemployment Compensation system, the Department has sent the proposal to USDOL for further review and can provide that information as it is available.

Thank you very much for the consideration of my letter. We will be happy to join you for the work session on this bill.