

**Testimony In Support of LD 1964, An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the  
Commission to Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program**

Mackenzie Arsenault  
Portland, Maine  
May 25, 2023

Dear Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing,

My name is Mackenzie Arsenault and I live in Portland Maine. I am testifying in support of paid family and medical leave for Maine.

As co-owner of Cornerstone Financial Planning supporting our employees through paid family leave is of utmost importance. We've implemented a generous paid leave policy as a way to support our employees and company culture. We hope that our policy would raise the bar for all employers. Having access to a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program would help break down some of the barriers that companies and small businesses face with instituting such policies.

The research shows that the benefits of providing paid family leave are overwhelming impactful to families.

US Labor Laws are outdated, our workforce is not the same as it used to be and laws need to be put into place to support this. It's not enough to protect jobs. Employees, mothers and families need to be paid. It has also been shown that proving paid leave decreases employee turnover and increases employee retention.

I hope you will support LD 1964.

Sincerely,

Mackenzie Arsenault