



MACPM Letter of Support for LD1964: An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

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

The Maine Association of Certified Professional Midwives is testifying in support of paid family and medical leave for Maine.

As an organization of care providers who work closely with birthing people, we see the direct impact a lack of paid family and medical leave has on Maine families. We know, both from personal experience and also from research, that having paid and supported time off for both the birthing person and their partner, leads to better health outcomes for the birthing person and the newborn. This includes lower incidence of postpartum mood disorders, higher rates of breastfeeding and lower likelihood of exposure to infectious diseases for the newborn.

With the passage of LD1964 Maine families would benefit from increased support and lower stress levels in the postpartum period.

We hope you will support LD1964. Thank you for listening to our perspective. We are happy to answer any questions you may have and can be reached at contactmacpm@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
The MACPM Board