

Derick Erickson
Poland
LD 104

Hello, My name is Derick Erickson and I would like to give my thoughts on LD 104. I'm afraid of retaliation by OCP as I've seen in the past when people push back against them for clear targeting. My testimony means more to me than me being targeted. Many of these targeting incidents are on audio and video. I have been a caregiver in good standing for 13 years in the state of Maine. I have been through thick and thin and I can tell you that every Caregiver in this state are pinching Pennies. Many of these caregivers are already going out of business due to the high cost of doing business which is getting worse everyday. This is very disheartening to see this bill. Metrc will definitely put a lot of caregivers out of business. I have been inspected quite a few times through the years and always have paperwork to back up everything I do. There are always a few bad apples in every field but the rest of us are going to pay the price. I'm having a hard time understanding how Metrc is still in this state considering all the trouble the state has had with them. We have had contract issues in the past as well as Metrc being such a mess. Hard time getting a hold of them, they don't return calls in a timely manner, computer issues regularly, and Of course the high cost of their program. I would also like to add the fact we have a serious conflict of interest. All government employees are held at a high ethical standard and we should trust the system. Here we have John Hudak who runs the program who negotiated a contract amendment to the tune of \$890,000 going to his previous cofounder. Close to a million dollars. This is mind boggling. My 11 year old grandson was asking questions while I was talking to my fiancé about it and he asked if the police were going to take him to Jail. It's that obvious. How do we trust the system if these shenanigans are happening. Thank god for Derek Shirley, David Boyer, and others leading the charge on this matter. I would rather have surprise inspections than trusting our Director who has a big conflict of interest with a system that is clearly not working and shady at best. This directly effects us caregivers who are paying the price for these actions. There is also a former executive who is bringing the shady Metrc actions to light. This has prompted a federal whistleblower lawsuit who has evidence of Metrc violating California and Federal law. Caregivers are working hard just to keep the lights on let alone the cost of doing business in our field of work. Please reconsider this Trainwreck of a problem and help our Caregivers stay in business. Thank you for reading my testimony. Please call if there are any questions you might have. 207-212-0678.

Sincerely, Derick Erickson