

MAINE ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDERS

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Testimony of Mary Lou Dyer, Managing Director,
of the Maine Association for Community Service Providers
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
Testifying in Support of L.D. 1829,

An Act To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Report Annually
on Investigations and Prosecutions of False Claims
Made under the MaineCare, Temporary Assistance for
Needy Families and Food Supplement Programs

Hearing Date: March 25, 2014

Senator Craven, Representative Farnsworth, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, I am Mary Lou Dyer, managing director of the Maine Association for Community Service Providers (MACSP) testifying in support of L.D.1829, An Act To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Report Annually on Investigations and Prosecutions of False Claims Made under the MaineCare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Food Supplement Programs. MACSP is an association of organizations which provides supports and services to children and adults with developmental and other intellectual disabilities and autism. We work with many offices and departments of state government to deliver high quality services to Maine people. MACSP has over seventy members operating in all sixteen counties of Maine.

MACSP members are supportive of this bill which documents information for which the public rarely sees hard data. We will speak specifically to §20 of the proposed statute change. Providers are regularly audited by various state and federal agencies and contracted entities. We share information among ourselves but rarely do we know the collective results of these audits. These audits require a huge investment of staff time and effort. An annual report containing the information outlined in the bill would help the public and providers understand both the efforts of government and possibly we could

learn to improve our own systems. The information requested in the bill is in the sole possession of the department and should be exposed to public scrutiny and edification.

I do have one last thought that I am not sure fits with this bill but I still want to mention it. The department also has at least one contract that determines prior authorizations and utilization reviews for certain MaineCare services. These services include, but are not limited, to early childhood, children's case management, and adult residential (for the IDD population) which are found in MaineCare §§21, 28, 17, 13, and 65, among some of the sections. This contract which is currently held by APS Healthcare affects the delivery of MaineCare services to a wide group of children and adults with a diversity of diagnoses. I would offer the opinion that it would be helpful to have similar reports on these activities including the cost of the contract, the amount of money saved, etc.

Thank you for your time and attention. I am happy to answer any questions you might have.