

Good Afternoon, Chairwoman Craven and Chairman Farnsworth and honorable members of the Health and Human Services Committee. My name is Susan Lamb, I am the Executive Director of the Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers and I live in Kennebunkport.

I am here today to testify in favor of LD 488 An Act to Improve Access to Home-based and Community-based Care in the MaineCare Program

The intent of the bill is to allow for home-based care support up to the level of expenditure just under (95%) of what it would cost the state to provide care in a nursing home. We at NASW have always supported the care of people needing medical attention in the least restrictive, but safe environment. We believe that home based care fits that definition. As it is written, this bill might even saver the state of Maine 5%. We think that is a laudable result.

Thank you. I would be happy to answer any questions that any of you might wish to ask me about.