

January 29, 2020

Committee on Health and Human Services
100 State House Station
Augusta ME 04333

Re: LD 1937 *An Act To Provide Timely Access to Behavioral Health Services for Maine Children and To Address Trauma and the Impacts of the Opioid Crisis*

Dear Senator Gratwick, Representative Hymanson, and members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

On behalf of the National Association of Social Workers Maine Chapter, I am writing to express our support of LD 1937.

In light of the current opioid epidemic, funding at current levels for adolescent treatment is untenable. Adolescents needing substance abuse and mental health services cannot be put on waiting lists or boarded in emergency rooms. Additionally, mental and behavioral health providers deserve to be adequately compensated for this challenging and necessary work. Increasing funding is a vital component as we all work to address this issue.

We urge you to vote yes on LD 1937.

Respectfully submitted,

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