

Candice Wright
Board of Licensing of Dietetic Practice
35 State House Station,
Augusta, ME 04333
April 3, 2026

Dear Candice Wright and Members of the Maine Board of Licensing of Dietetic Practice,

My name is Kayla Gayer, and I am a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) and Public Policy Coordinator for the [Maine Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](#) (MAND). Our organization is the state affiliate for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (also referred to as the Academy). We represent RDNs, dietetic technicians, registered (DTRs), and dietetic students from across the state. I am writing on behalf of MAND to provide input during the current public comment period for rulemaking; specifically in regards to the Board of Licensing of Dietetics suggestions to repeal Chapters 1-4, with subsequent adoption of Chapters 10-14.

First and foremost, MAND would like to extend our deepest gratitude for all of the time and effort that board members have taken to review and update these rules. These updates will strengthen public safety, while also ensuring alignment with standards established by national governing organizations, such as the Commission on Dietetic Regulations and the Academy. We have reviewed the proposed rule changes with the Academy's State Legislative and Government Affairs team. Our affiliate supports these changes with minor adjustments to SECTION 1. These slight revisions include:

- Updating the abbreviation for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics to align with the organization's preference, as follows:
 - **ACADEMY.** "ACADEMY" means the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (rather than the proposed abbreviation of "AND")
- Combining the definition for Registered Dietitian and Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, to provide clarification for the public, as follows. We are concerned that, without combining, the public may interpret the "RD" and the "RDN" as two different credentials.
 - **REGISTERED DIETITIAN.** "Registered Dietitian" means a person who is credentialed by the Commission on Dietetic Registration or its successor organization as a registered dietitian or a registered dietitian nutritionist and is authorized to use such title and the corresponding abbreviations "RD" or "RDN."

Again, thank you for your commitment to protecting the public through the regulation of dietetic licensure. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you feel that additional input would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Kayla Gayer, PhD, RDN, LD