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Date: (Filing No. H- )

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**129TH LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1184, Resolution, “JOINT RESOLUTION  
MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE  
UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ALLOW THE IMPORTATION OF  
AFFORDABLE AND SAFE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS”

Amend the resolution by striking out all of the 4th to 7th indented paragraphs and  
inserting the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of the United States Food and Drug  
Administration, Dr. Scott Gottlieb, stated on February 28, 2019 that when "an American  
consumer goes to Canada and walks into a brick-and-mortar Canadian pharmacy and  
buys a medicine they're getting a high-quality drug because of Canada's first-class drug  
regulatory process"; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2016 report of the United States Special Committee on Aging found  
that pharmaceutical manufacturing standards in Canada and the European Union are  
"stringent and comparable to U.S. standards"; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, Americans spent \$1,208 per person on prescription drugs  
while Canadians spent \$833, and nearly one in three Americans have been unable to  
afford the medicine they were prescribed at some point in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that the federal Affordable  
and Safe Prescription Drug Importation Act, which was introduced in the United States  
Senate in the 115th Congress and would allow the importation of prescription drugs from  
Canada and certain member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and  
Development, would save Americans over \$5 billion over 10 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and  
Modernization Act of 2003 requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to allow  
individuals to import prescription drugs from Canada upon the Secretary's certification to  
Congress that such importation will pose no additional risk to the public's health and  
safety and will result in significant savings to American consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, multiple members of Congress from both major political parties,  
including Maine's delegation, have introduced legislation to increase access to qualifying  
prescription drugs imported from licensed sellers in Canada and other member nations of

1 the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, using standards for the  
2 approval and sale of such medications comparable to those in the United States, that are  
3 purchased from an entity certified by the United States Food and Drug Administration  
4 and that have the same active ingredient, strength and route of administration as drugs  
5 approved in the United States; and'

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This amendment adds to the joint resolution information regarding the importation of  
8 drugs.

9 **SPONSORED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

10 **(Representative BERRY)**

11 **TOWN: Bowdoinham**