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Karen Saylor, MD, President | Jeffrey S. Barkin, MD, President-Elect | Erik N. Steele, DO, FAAFP, Chair, Board of Directors  
Andrew B. MacLean, JD, CEO | Dan Morin, Director of Communications & Government Affairs

TO: The Honorable Chip Curry, Chair  
The Honorable Tiffany Roberts, Chair  
Joint Committee Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

FM: Dan Morin, Director of Communications and Government Affairs

DATE: April 8, 2021

RE: **Oppose:** LD 942 An Act To Waive Professional and Occupational Licensing Fees for  
Calendar Year 2020

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The Maine Medical Association is the state's largest professional physician organization representing more than 4300 physicians, residents, and medical students across all clinical specialties, organizations, and practice settings.

The MMA **opposes LD 942**, An Act To Waive Professional and Occupational Licensing Fees for Calendar Year 2020.

The physician licensing boards exist to safeguard the public fairly and effectively through licensure, education, and potential discipline of those who practice medicine in Maine. Safeguarding the public is the primary goal and responsibility. We worry the legislation may severely harm their operating budgets.

While no organization in Maine is more aware that physicians are under increased stress—including financial distress for many independent community physician practices—due to the COVID-19 pandemic, insufficient staffing and funding for the Board of Licensure in Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine could hinder their respective abilities to protect public safety.

While thank Representative Faulkingham for his proposal and concern for the financial well-being of his constituents, the MMA respectfully requests the committee to vote Ought Not to Pass.