**State of Maine**
**131st Maine Legislature**

TO: Senator Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair
Representative Melanie Sachs, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Senator Marianne Moore, Senate Lead MM
Representative Kathy Javner, House Lead KJ (MM)
Republican Caucus of the Committee on Health and Human Services

DATE: March 17, 2023

SUBJECT: Additional report from the Minority caucus for the LD 258, the biennial budget

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The Health and Human Services Committee provided its recommendations to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee on March 10, 2023. The memo from the Committee included recommendations from both the Democratic and Republican caucuses. Our caucus, the Republican caucus, would like to add an additional recommendation for your committee to consider.

The Republican caucus recommend that Title 22, section 3196 be repealed. This section of law authorizes abortion coverage for MaineCare members. Our caucus support LD 494 which has been referred to the Judiciary Committee. We are recommending that this bill be incorporated into the biennial budget and taxpayer coverage for abortion is ended.

We thank you for your consideration.

cc: Health and Human Services Committee members
Commissioner Jeanne M. Lambrew, Department of Health and Human Services
Deputy Commissioner Benjamin Mann, Department of Health and Human Services
Molly Bogart, Government Relations Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Maureen Dawson, OFPR
Luke Lazure, OFPR
Anna Broome, OPLA
Samuel Senft, OPLA