



PO Box 135
Woolwich, ME 04579
Tel.: (207) 621 -0313
Fax: (207) 622 -4437
mainenpassociation@gmail.com
www.mnpa.org

26 Years of *Independent Practice* as Healthcare Providers for the People of Maine

16 February 2023

Letter of Testimony in support of LD282 - An Act to Allow the Department of Health and Human Services to Authorize Standing Orders

Dear Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer and distinguished members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Maine Nurse Practitioner Association in support of LD282 which will eliminate the impediments to common sense access to appropriate treatment for individuals receiving MaineCare who require standing orders, as stipulated in the bill, for vaccines and nonprescription drugs.

As a brief example, I have often had to provide orders for my patients who require over the counter medications rather than prescription medications as part of their treatment. The need to provide orders for these medications, as well as essential vaccines, adds an additional step or two for providers and for the caregivers of these Maine citizens as well as potential delay in treatment.

Colleagues have spoken to me of having to write prescriptions for over the counter medications that are not affordable without MaineCare coverage for these individuals. This is a needless use of providers' time, time that could be preserved for other patients through the use of standing orders as indicated in LD282.

We respectfully request your support of LD282 which will eliminate outdated barriers to access to care for the citizens of Maine and, as such, will truly "...promote public health and the health of MaineCare members..."

Sincerely,

Constance W. Jordan, ANP, PMHNP
MNPA President