



**Testimony Neither For Nor Against**

**LD 132, An Act to Require Health Insurance Carriers to Provide Coverage for Blood Testing for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances**

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Community Health Options is Maine’s only nonprofit CO-OP health insurance company and we are focused on providing affordable, high-quality benefits that promote health and wellbeing.

We appreciate the concerns behind this bill and recognize the serious impacts that PFAS contamination is having on our farmland, drinking water, and Maine people across our state. Community Health Options is following along as scientific and medical recommendations are evolving quickly regarding testing and screening for PFAS.

As you have heard, The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine issued a Consensus Study Report in 2022 entitled “Guidance on PFAS Exposure, Testing, and Clinical Follow-Up”<sup>1</sup> which advised the Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR) “to update its guidance to say, clinicians should offer PFAS blood testing to patients who are likely to have a history of elevated exposure to PFAS.” As you may also be aware, The Legislature established a PFAS Fund Advisory Committee last year which is co-chaired by Senator Brenner and Representative Fay and is currently working hard to make a range of recommendations addressing PFAS contamination in our state. Part of this work is being considered by the PFAS Fund Advisory Committee’s Health Subcommittee. The Health Subcommittee will be making its recommendations, including recommendations about payments for PFAS blood testing, this spring and the full Advisory Committee will issue a report and plan likely this summer.

Community Health Options already provides coverage for blood testing for PFAS. This testing is covered in the same way that other diagnostic lab services are provided and we do not subject this lab test to prior authorization or other clinical review. The ICD-10 code for the PFAS blood test is the same as that used for screening for lead. The code is Z13.88 (encounter for screening for disorder due to exposure to contaminants).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments.

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<sup>1</sup> NASEM Consensus Study Report Highlights,  
<https://nap.nationalacademies.org/resource/26156/PFAS%20Guidance%20Highlights.pdf>