

Testimony on Behalf of the Maine State Nurses Association/National Nurses United
Before the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Expressing concern for LD 1541, An Act to Repeal Certificate of Need Requirements for
Health Care Providers

Thursday, April 27, 2023 1:00 PM, Cross Building, Room 220

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and distinguished members of the Committee on
Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services:

My name is Coralie Giles. I am a registered nurse, President of the Maine State Nurses Association, Vice-President of National Nurses United, and a resident of Brewer. The Maine State Nurses Association/National Nurses Organizing Committee/National Nurses United (MSNA/NNU), representing 4,000 nurses and caregivers across the state of Maine, offers this testimony expressing concern for LD 1541.

Strong certificate of need laws support effective health care planning and access to cost-effective services. For example, certificate of need laws limit corporations' ability to selectively target only the most-profitable patient groups, such as those covered by private insurance, leaving other health care facilities to cover uninsured patients and those with public insurance. Similarly, certificate of need laws limit corporations' ability to siphon off profitable service lines from hospitals that provide a variety services. For example, corporations may attempt to siphon off lucrative orthopedic surgeries or cardiac procedures by opening ambulatory surgery centers or specialty hospitals.

For these reasons, MSNA/NNU urges committee members to thoughtfully consider the implications before making any changes to Maine's certificate of need law.

Sincerely,

Coralie Giles RN

Coralie Giles, RN
President, Maine State Nurses Association
Vice-President, National Nurses United

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Maine State Nurses Association/National Nurses United
LD 1541

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