Julia Moore Maine LD 1577

Biomarker testing saves lives and helps people live in less pain. Precision medicine is key when treating certain conditions like cancer or autoimmune types of arthritis. To give patients that best options for treatment, medicine needs to be tailored for their specific genes, proteins, and other substances in their body. That's why biomarker testing is so important because they can detemine what is the best treatment for a patient.

Many doctors who treat arthritis patients report that insurance coverage for biomarker testing is a barrier. Providers are fighting with insurance companies so that patients have access to biomarker testing because access to testing means a more prescise way of treating the disease which could be lifesaving. We can improve the quality of life of many people in Maine by expanding appropriate coverage of biomarker testing for private and public insurance plans. We need to ensure patients will get the right care that they need at the right time. For these reasons I respectfully request that you support LD 1577.