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February 5, 2025

AARP Maine Testimony in support of LD 93 An Act to Reduce Cost and Increase Access to Disease Prevention by Expanding the Universal Childhood Immunization Program to Include Adults

Greetings Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and members of the Committee On Health and Human Services. My name is Bridget Quinn, Associate State Director of Advocacy and Outreach for AARP Maine.

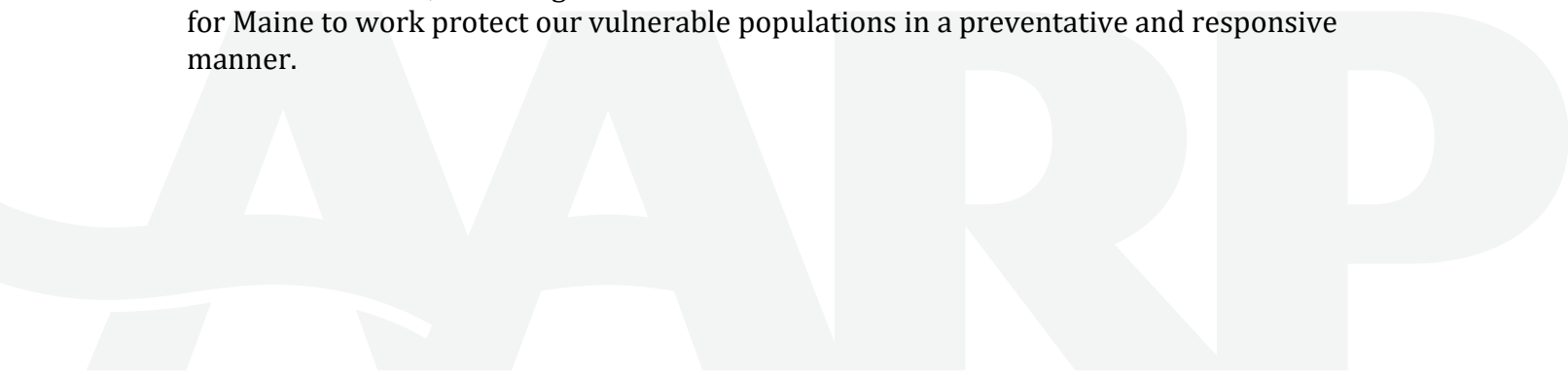
AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. On behalf of our nearly 200,000 members statewide, thank you for the opportunity to share testimony today. We thank Representative Zager for bringing forward this bill and will be offering testimony in support of LD 93.

LD 93 expands the Maine Childhood Immunization Program to provide immunizations to and cover the costs of recommended vaccines for adults in Maine. AARP advocates for policies that;

- Engage individuals and communities to support healthy living
- Ensure adequacy and affordability
- Deliver high-quality care and contain costs
- And Ensure access and equity

It is our belief that LD 93 achieves these policy fundamentals. LD 93 will increase access to affordable vaccines for adults by making it easier for providers to access vaccines and make it easier for consumers to get vaccines by receiving them directly from their provider. This can be a great impact for those who are unable to leave their homes without assistance. LD 93 would allow patients to receive vaccines from providers potentially eliminating the need to have a second trip to a pharmacy as well as lower the cost of vaccines.

LD 93 also has public health benefits. Preparation and planning is essential for protecting populations during all types of public health emergencies. This can include outbreaks of infectious diseases. The effects of a public health emergency can be felt across all aspects of an individual's life, including their health and financial resilience. LD 93 will be another tool for Maine to work protect our vulnerable populations in a preventative and responsive manner.



We urge this committee to pass LD 93. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today, if you have further questions for me I can be contacted at bquinn@arp.org or at 207-272-8563.

Thank you,
Bridget Quinn
AARP Maine

