

State of Maine | 132nd Legislature
Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
Testimony of Hannah Hudson on behalf of Maine Primary Care Association
February 5th, 2025

Neither For Nor Against:
LD 67, “An Act to Establish Minimum Standards for Certain Urgent Care Facilities”
Sponsored by Representative Michele Meyer

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, I am Hannah Hudson, the Director of Policy for Maine Primary Care Association (MPCA).

MPCA is a membership organization representing Maine's Community Health Centers (CHCs), also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). Maine's CHCs make up the largest independent primary care network in the state, providing affordable, high-quality primary and preventive medical, behavioral, and dental health services for over 200,000 people (1 in 6 Mainers) at more than 80 service delivery sites around the State.

We are testifying neither for nor against LD 67 and we wish to thank the department for their willingness respond to our questions prior to this public hearing. We are requesting that the committee consider an amendment that adds FQHCs to the list of facilities and offices who are exempted from this new licensing requirement. Federally Qualified Health Centers are community-based healthcare providers who receive funds from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Health Center Program to provide primary care services in underserved areas. These centers must all be federally certified and follow current licensure and certification laws and regulations. They do not operate as urgent care clinics which this legislation appears to be addressing.

MPCA and Maine's FQHCs would be happy to provide additional information as needed. Thank you for your consideration of our request, and please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any follow up questions.

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