



Written Testimony of the Maine Chapter of the American College of Physicians

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

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

Room 209, Cross Building, Augusta, Maine

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Good afternoon, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Stephen Hayes, MD and I am the current governor of the Maine Chapter of the American College of Physicians. I am submitting this written 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. I am providing this testimony on the behalf of the Maine Chapter of the American College of Physicians.

The Maine Chapter of the American College of Physicians is a group of internal medicine specialists representing more than 500 practicing physicians, resident physicians and medical students in the state of Maine. As internal medicine specialists, we provide care to adults in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. The American College of physicians represents more than 100,000 internal medicine specialists, residents and medical students across United States and abroad.

The Maine Chapter of the American College of Physicians recognizes the vital importance of immunizations in promoting the health and wellbeing of all Mainers. We recognize the vital role the childhood immunization program has played in providing access to vaccines to all eligible citizens. Many adults in our state experience barriers to accessing vaccines. Many lack health insurance coverage and many have high deductible insurance plans that make all elements of care difficult to afford. By expanding the immunization program to include vaccine coverage for adults between ages 19 and 64, we will have the opportunity to make these important treatments accessible to a greater number of people.

Our national organization recognizes the importance of vaccine therapy. It is a stated policy of our national organization to support state laws that are designed to promote access to all recommended immunizations

On behalf of the Maine Chapter the American College of Physicians, I would like to reiterate our support for this important bill. We believe that this provides an opportunity to improve the health of our fellow citizens and has the potential help reduce overall costs to the health care system.

Thank you for allowing me to provide input from the Maine Chapter of the American College of Physicians on this important bill and we hope you will support LD 93.

Thank you,

Stephen R. Hayes, MD, MACP

Governor, Maine Chapter of the American College of Physicians.

Stephen Hayes
Maine Chapter of the American College of Physicians
LD 93

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