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Dear Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

I'm Dr. Casey Cole, I'm chair of the Maine Veterinary Medical Association's Legislative Committee and I am writing on behalf of the MVMA in favor of LD 765 "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program". The current PMP law has veterinarians correctly listed as dispensers but does not have us listed as prescribers. Veterinarians have the authority to both prescribe and dispense medication in the State of Maine. We believe that the change in the definition of prescriber was done in error when a previous bill moved the veterinary electronic prescribing waiver to the Veterinary Practice Act from the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring statute. This bill corrects that error by adding veterinarians back into the definition of prescriber.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit this testimony and appreciate the work that this committee does for healthcare in the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

Casey Cole, BVM