



**Maine Medical  
Association**



**TESTIMONY OF THE MAINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
AND  
THE MAINE OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION**

**In Opposition to**

**LD 790- An Act to Prevent Denial of Patient Access Through Collaborative Care**

Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services  
Room 220, Cross Building, Augusta, Maine  
Thursday, March 20th, 2025

Good Afternoon, Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services. My name is Anne Sedlack, and I am the Director of Advocacy at the Maine Medical Association. I am submitting this testimony in opposition to LD 790- An Act to Prevent Denial of Patient Access Through Collaborative Care on behalf of the Maine Medical Association and Maine Osteopathic Association.

The Maine Medical Association (MMA) is a professional organization representing more than 4,000 physicians, residents, and medical students in Maine. MMA's mission is to support Maine physicians, advance the quality of medicine in Maine, and promote the health of all Maine people. The Maine Osteopathic Association (MOA) is a professional organization representing more than 1,200 osteopathic physicians, residents, and medical students in Maine whose mission is to serve the Osteopathic profession of the State of Maine through a coordinated effort of professional education, advocacy, and member services in order to ensure the availability of quality osteopathic health care to the people of this State.

The MMA and MOA's legislative committees have joined to advocate with one voice in opposition to LD 790. We have three main issues with this bill.

First, in reviewing this bill's language in conjunction with the testimony delivered, it is clear that its overly broad language attempts to fix a singular issue. However, this bill does not identify the exact barrier to providing school-related services such as physicals, concussion management, and return-to-play guidelines. If the barrier identified is care chiropractors can provide within their scope<sup>1</sup>, which is guided by the minimum standards of education and training, then we would be happy to work to identify barriers to our shared patients utilizing their care.

---

<sup>1</sup> Through state and federal advocacy efforts, we work to ensure that patient care is delivered through [physician-led care](#) and have opposed attempts by nonphysicians to expand their scope of practice.

Second, the bill mandates that:

A health care practitioner may not deny a patient access to health care services to be performed by another health care practitioner when those services are within the lawful scope of practice of the other health care practitioner.

This bill attempts to legislate medicine, which should only be done when necessary for patient care and safety. Federal and state laws, regulations, and duty of care are currently more than sufficient. Further laws complicate the practice area and make it difficult for members to provide the best care possible.

Finally, patients' access to healthcare is already protected. Our members appreciate collaborating with their partners to ensure patients receive the best care possible across different healthcare modalities. More importantly, patients already have the right to seek out the medical care that best fits their needs, so it is unclear why this bill is necessary.

Thank you for considering the thoughts of Maine's physicians about LD 790. We urge you to oppose this bill.

Thank you,

Anne Sedlack, Esq., M.S.W. (she/her/hers)  
Director of Advocacy  
[Maine Medical Association](http://MaineMedicalAssociation.org)  
Email: [asedlack@mainephysicians.org](mailto:asedlack@mainephysicians.org)