



**Maine Medical  
Association**



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

**In Support Of**

**LD 763- An Act to Improve Long-term Care by Providing Funding for Nursing  
Facilities**

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services  
Room 209, Cross Building, Augusta, Maine  
Friday, March 28, 2025

Good afternoon, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Anne Sedlack, and I am the Director of Advocacy at the Maine Medical Association. I am submitting this testimony supporting LD 763, An Act to Improve Long-term Care by Providing Funding for Nursing Facilities, on behalf of the Maine Medical Association and Maine Osteopathic Association.

The Maine Medical Association (MMA) is a professional organization representing over 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 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. We have all determined that we should testify in support of LD 763.

Like many healthcare facilities, nursing homes have been struggling in the State of Maine in recent years. Since 2014, there have been 29 nursing home closures, with 16 closings since 2021 alone.<sup>1</sup> This escalating rate of closures is happening because of low reimbursement

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whowillcaremaine.com/the-facts>

rates, record inflation levels, and rising labor costs. This continuous closure of facilities can cause emotional distress to residents and their families. It can impact the whole healthcare ecosystem because it can lead to Mainers being stuck in hospitals for months, waiting for long-term care placement.

LD 763 is attempting to help stop the rapid closing of nursing facilities by providing a one-time funding of \$50,000,000. This funding will tremendously benefit public health, especially considering that Maine has the oldest population of any state in the country. This problem, if not addressed, will just continue to get worse.

A lack of funding combined with increasing staffing difficulties is crippling Maine's ability to provide quality long-term care services to our aging population. LD 763 is attempting to help fix these problems.

Thank you for considering the thoughts of Maine's physicians, and we hope you support LD 763.

Thank you,

Anne Sedlack, Esq., M.S.W. (she/her/hers)

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