

Isabella Taylor  
LEWISTON  
LD 174

Thank you to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee

My name is Dr. Isabella Taylor and I am testifying on behalf of myself – a family medicine physician from Lewiston.

I am strongly OPPOSED to these bills – LD174 and 727

Frankly I am tired of having to stand up time and time again for science that is irrefutable. Vaccines save lives. I physically wept when I read a child died of Measles in Texas last month. This was an unnecessary and preventable death, and I will NOT allow that type of irresponsible philosophy to creep into Maine.

As a physician, I can tell you that the majority of patients actively support required vaccines. Every day, I counsel patients on the life saving benefits and they trust me. They trust me to protect them, their community and testify in front of you today to make sure we stand together.

LD 174 would bring back non-medical exemptions, and LD 727 would go even further by eliminating vaccine requirements altogether. These changes would leave our families vulnerable to outbreaks of disease, threatening lives and our state's economy. We're already seeing surges in diseases like measles in states with weaker laws. Maine shouldn't be next.

Vaccines aren't just a personal decision—they are a public health responsibility. As a Mainer, I want our state to continue following science and protecting all children, including those with compromised immune systems.

Please uphold the current statute which has proven to protect Mainers and keep preventable diseases out of Maine.