

**Testimony by Claire Beskin**

**In Support of LD 691 - An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Further  
Investment in Maine-based Businesses**

**April 7, 2025**

**Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs**

Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, and Distinguished Members of the  
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs:

My name is Claire Beskin, and I am the Cofounder and CEO of Empallo, a virtual heart clinic on a mission to make high-quality cardiac care both affordable and accessible. I am writing this testimony in support of Maine Venture Fund (MVF) and the vital role it plays in supporting startups, including our own.

Empallo has directly benefited from MVF's investment, which allowed us to grow and deliver crucial healthcare services in several states including Maine. MVF's support has been instrumental in helping us overcome challenges that traditional funding sources couldn't address.

The Maine economy is at a critical juncture, and MVF's focus on early-stage businesses is essential for fostering innovation, particularly in sectors like healthcare. MVF doesn't just provide capital but also guidance and connections, enabling startups to thrive.

I strongly support the continued work of Maine Venture Fund and encourage further investment in early-stage Maine-based businesses. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Claire Beskin  
Cofounder & CEO, Empallo

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LD 691

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