



Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

**Testimony in Support of
LD 1018, “An Act to Protect Health Care for Rural and Underserved Areas by Prohibiting
Discrimination by Participants in a Federal Drug Discount Program”
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services
April 16, 2025**

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and Esteemed Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services, my name is Mattie Daughtry, and I proudly represent Senate District 23, which includes Brunswick, Freeport, Harpswell, Pownal, Chebeague Island, and part of Yarmouth.

Today I am pleased to offer testimony in support of LD 1018, “An Act to Protect Health Care for Rural and Underserved Areas by Prohibiting Discrimination by Participants in a Federal Drug Discount Program.”

Programs that support Maine's rural health care infrastructure are critical. Let me repeat that:
Programs that support Maine's rural health care infrastructure are critical.

This winter, I had the opportunity to meet with leaders from Penobscot Bay Community Health Center. They see 60,000 patients on average per year. That means 1 in 9 Mainers are served by PCHC in Penobscot, Waldo, and Somerset Counties. This health care is a lifeline in this region. I learned that recent reductions in 340B Savings cost PCHC a whopping \$4.9 million in 2024. This is unacceptable and I believe we can change the rules in Maine to ensure our healthcare providers--especially those who complete extensive reporting like PCHC--can benefit from this program.

I thank Senator Bailey for bringing forward this meaningful legislation. I thank her, and members of this committee for fighting for protections and supports for rural providers.

Thank you for your consideration and time, and I would be happy to answer any questions.