

Testimony in SUPPORT of LD 1687

Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services
April 29, 2025

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and Honorable Members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services:

My name is Kaylee Wolfe, and I am a family nurse practitioner and HIV Specialist certified by the American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM). I am testifying today in support of LD 1687, *An Act to Clarify and Increase Access to HIV Prevention Medications*.

Healthcare is a team sport, and we achieve the best outcomes for patients when every member of the healthcare team is empowered to practice to the full scope of their training and skills. Maine laid the groundwork for pharmacists to take a more active role in HIV prevention in 2021 by allowing patients to obtain initial prescriptions for HIV pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP and PEP) directly from pharmacists. The bill before you today would facilitate real-world implementation by enabling pharmacists to get appropriately reimbursed for the time and expertise that such prescribing requires.

This could not come at a more crucial time. With an active HIV outbreak occurring in Penobscot County and a barrage of slashed budgets and program cuts for disease prevention at the federal level, Maine can't wait to take action on HIV prevention. PrEP and PEP are two of the most powerful tools we have for preventing new infections and ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic. LD 1687 will facilitate expanded access to these life-saving medications, and therefore I urge you to vote that it OUGHT TO PASS.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kaylee Wolfe, FNP-C, AAHIVS
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