

In Opposition To

LD 890 - An Act to Permit the Dispensing of Ivermectin Pursuant to a Standing Order upon Request for COVID-19, Flu and Cancer Patients

Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services Room 220, Cross Building, Augusta, Maine Thursday, May 1, 2025

Good Morning Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services. My name is Anne Sedlack, and I am the Director of Advocacy at the Maine Medical Association. I am submitting this testimony opposing LD 890 - An Act to Permit the Dispensing of Ivermectin Pursuant to a Standing Order upon Request for COVID-19, Flu and Cancer Patients on behalf of the Maine Medical Association and Maine Osteopathic Association.

The Maine Medical Association (MMA) is a professional organization representing more than 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 in order 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 in opposition to LD 890.

According to the United States Federal Drug Administration, "For humans, ivermectin tablets are approved at specific doses to treat some parasitic worms, and there are topical (on the skin) formulations for head lice and skin conditions like rosacea. For animals, certain pour-on, injectable, paste, chewable, and "drench" ivermectin products are approved in the U.S. to treat or prevent parasites in animals."¹ It has not been approved for treating COVID-19, influenza or cancer.

If LD 890 were to pass, patients would obtain Ivermectin without consulting a clinician for a use that has not been approved by the FDA. This would be extremely dangerous. Thank you for considering the thoughts of Maine's physicians - we urge you to oppose this bill.

Thank you,

Anne Sedlack, Esq., M.S.W. (she/her/hers) Director of Advocacy <u>Maine Medical Association</u> Email: asedlack@mainephysicians.org

¹ <u>https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/ivermectin-and-covid-19</u>.