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I gave birth at MDI a year and a half ago. It is critical that small hospitals keep their doors open. On MDI from one side to the other takes at least 30 mins without tourist traffic or inclement weather. The nearest maternity after that is in Ellsworth, which can easily take 45 mins. In the summer season, when a significant amount of babies being born, that trip can take easily take up to 2 hours or more due to Acadia. It is not unheard of people being lifeflighted to Bangor just due to traffic. Emergency services will be used more and more for births when you create medical deserts. Long-term, that is going to get expensive fast and not sustainable. It also diverts real unavoidable emergencies from getting faster care. When you are in labor going 2 hours for care can be incredibly dangerous to mom and baby. This is happening all over the state. It also discourages women from having babies further decreasing the Maine population. Something has to be done to keep the maternity wards open.