

Testimony LD 1883: An Act to Enact The All Maine Health Act

My name is Denise M. Soucy, MD, and I am a retired Family Physician who spent my 26 year career in Damariscotta, Maine doing rural healthcare, largely in private practice.

I'll never forget a 26 year old woman who came in for a physical exam, her first "in a long while" because she had just gotten access to MaineCare. I found an unusual looking spot in a distinctive tattoo, removed it, and then sent her for surgery because it was the deadliest of skin cancers, caught early on—a melanoma.

She is alive and thriving. I shudder to think of the different trajectory had she not had the ability to get routine care.

We live in one of the richest countries in the world, spend far too much on health care that is inefficiently managed by for profit insurance companies. We can change this, and should.

I support LD 1883 and thank you for engaging in this discussion.

Thank you.

Denise M. Soucy