



**Maine Medical  
Association**



**TESTIMONY OF THE MAINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
AND  
THE MAINE OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION**

**In Support Of**

**LD 1970- An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Consent for HIV Testing and Disclosure of  
Related Medical Information for Insurance Purposes**

Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services  
Room 220, Cross Building, Augusta, Maine  
Wednesday, May 22nd, 2025

Good Afternoon, 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 in support of LD 1970- An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Consent for HIV Testing and Disclosure of Related Medical Information for Insurance Purposes.

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 support of LD 1970.

This bill aligns Maine with the national recommendations for HIV testing consent in health care settings, which is important for both clinicians and patients. The recommendations state that consent for HIV screening should be incorporated into the patient's general informed consent for medical care on the same basis as other screening or diagnostic tests and that a separate consent form for HIV testing is not needed. This is best practice, and we should align our statute with it.

HIV has been a long-stigmatized diagnosis, and this moves us into a better place. Thank you for considering the thoughts of Maine's physicians and public health community about LD 1970. We urge you to support this bill.

Thank you,

Anne Sedlack, Esq., M.S.W. (she/her/hers)  
Director of Advocacy  
[Maine Medical Association](http://MaineMedicalAssociation.org)  
Email: [asedlack@mainephysicians.org](mailto:asedlack@mainephysicians.org)