

Christine Lyman  
Brunswick  
LD 1772

TO: Maine Legislative Health and Human Services Committee  
Please Vote to Pass LD 1772

I write you as a public health professional who spent 17+ years at the Maine CDC and since then as a volunteer with the Midcoast Public Health District Coordinating Council and the Maine Public Health Association.

My work has been to strengthen system infrastructure that can deliver reliable public health and prevention services with and for Maine communities, primarily through Maine's community coalitions and public health districts.

Achieving broad public health and prevention goals requires complex and tailored interventions requiring significant time and effort to actually achieve.

The challenge is that such work occurs within a dynamic of constant federal and state policy and funding changes. Project, workforce and resource coordination plans need constant adjustment. a firehose of public and private information. A firehose of public and private information faces legislators who want to establish sound legislative and funding policies to support such public health and prevention work. It's hard to have a clear picture of what's really going on.

LD 1772 offers a practical way to support legislators making decisions that will directly or indirectly support health by establishing an advisory body for the Legislature that will focus on population health and safety. That this advisory body will address both public and private assets and activities and all legislative activities across sectors that directly and indirectly impact population health is a unique opportunity. It offers a level of coordination and efficiency by gathering information wherever population health is affected. This is innovative; please vote to pass LD 1772.

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