



Healthcare Distribution Alliance

HEALTH DELIVERED

Senator Donna Bailey, Chair
Representative Kristi Mathieson, Chair
CC: HCIFS Committee
Room 220 | Augusta, ME

January 20, 2026

**Re: Healthcare Distribution Alliance (HDA) Testimony
In Support of LD 2019**

Dear Chair Bailey, Chair Mathieson, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the members of the Healthcare Distribution Alliance (HDA), I am writing to share our strong support for Maine LD 2019, legislation brought forward by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation which makes a simple but critical modification to the licensure application process for wholesale distributors. This modification will align the licensure process with the current federal landscape, ensuring that access to critical medications for Maine patients is not interrupted.

HDA is the national trade association representing pharmaceutical wholesale distributors. Our members serve as the vital link within the supply chain, delivering products from over 1,200 pharmaceutical manufacturers to more than 350,000 pharmacies and healthcare settings around the country. In Maine, our members deliver over 93% of all pharmaceutical products to around 1,500 locations across Maine. Simply put, HDA members provide logistical expertise to ensure pharmacy and hospital shelves are physically stocked with the medicines to treat their patients.

Currently, the licensure process requires information that wholesale distributors cannot provide under the today's federal landscape. Specifically- manufacturers and wholesale distributors are required to provide a FDA and DEA number at the time they apply for licensure. However, wholesale distributors do not receive a number from FDA. Further, the DEA only grants registration to certain wholesale distributors under limited conditions, and many wholesale distributors who deliver critical products to Maine shelves cannot receive such a number. Finally, in some cases, a wholesale distributor might first need to be licensed in the state before being eligible to apply for a DEA number. LD 2019 resolves these federal regulatory conflicts by allowing wholesale distributors and manufacturers to apply for licensure without providing these numbers, if they supply them later as available.

Without this change proposed by LD 2019, wholesale distributors will be unable to achieve licensure in Maine, preventing them from delivering critical products to Maine shelves. HDA would like to thank the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and the sponsor for bringing forward this legislation, and respectfully asks for the Committee's favorable consideration. Please don't hesitate to reach out to kmemphis@hda.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Kelly Memphis

Kelly Memphis | Healthcare Distribution Alliance