

December 26, 2025

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee:

My name is Crystal MacClintock. I am a Monson Maine resident, and I practice medicine in Dover Foxcroft Maine. I have practiced medicine since 2009, always in rural settings, and for the last 11 years in the state of Maine. Today, I am testifying in support of LD 2088 "An Act to Increase Access to Primary Care Provided by Physician Associates."

Eliminating this barrier to physician associates (PAs) practicing medicine in an unburdened fashion in Maine is imperative. Healthcare access is becoming increasingly problematic, especially in the more rural settings.

I am closely acquainted with a nurse practitioner who has established a private practice to provide a more accessible and sustainable approach to primary care in the Dexter area. Unfortunately, the requirement for a practice agreement for PAs has proved to be a great barrier to her being able to utilize these qualified nonphysician providers. Subsequently, her ability to increase capacity within her practice is limited. This is unfortunate yet could be easily and safely remedied by the changes proposed by LD 2088.

Anything that can be done to improve access and allow alternative models of available primary care services, in particular outside of the large organizations that currently dominate the region, is prudent at this point for the sake of the community members throughout all of Maine, particularly rural areas. Please take this into consideration when reviewing LD 2088. Thank you for your time!

Kindest Regards,



Crystal MacClintock