



**Maine Medical
Association**



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

In Support Of

[LD 2065](#)

An Act to Provide One-time Funds to Support the Construction of a Psychiatric Residential
Treatment Facility for At-risk Youth

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
Room 209, Cross Building, Augusta, Maine
Thursday, January 29, 2026

Good Morning, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human 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 2065](#) an Act to Provide One-time Funds to Support the Construction of a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility for At-risk Youth, on behalf of the Maine Medical Association and Maine Osteopathic Association.

The Maine Medical Association (MMA) is a professional organization representing over 4,300 allopathic and osteopathic 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 united on this issue and are here today to testify in support of LD 2065.

Physicians throughout the state have notified us that our child residential treatment system is stretched too thin. These circumstances have led to children spending exorbitant amounts of time in emergency departments, being moved to out-of-state facilities, or cycling through inadequate crisis services.

Psychiatric residential treatment facilities provide 24-hour live-in care for individuals under the age of 21 who are suffering. These facilities are key to bridging the gap between

emergency care, family living, and therapy. Currently, Maine families are forced to look out of state in order to find the right facilities to care for their at-risk children, leading to painful family separations.

Our members know that forcing parents to choose between sending their children to out-of-state facilities and keeping them in homes where they do not have adequate resources is an impossible choice to face. We hope that by building a psychiatric residential treatment facility, it will allow for Maine children to get the help they deserve while remaining close to the ones they love.

Thank you for considering the thoughts of Maine's physicians, and we hope you support LD 2065.

Thank you,

Anne Sedlack, Esq., M.S.W.

Director of Advocacy

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