



February 16, 2026

Senator Donna Bailey
Representative Kristi Michele Mathieson
the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

RE: LD 2082 An Act to Regulate the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Providing Certain Mental Health Services

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

I write on behalf of the Maine Psychological Association (MePA), in opposition to LD 2082 An Act to Regulate the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Providing Certain Mental Health Services presented by Representative Kuhn of Falmouth and cosponsored by Senator Piece of Cumberland.

My name is Stacy Whitcomb-Smith and I am the current president of The Maine Psychological Association (MePA). MePA is a non-profit association which represents the 600+ psychologists and psychological examiners in Maine. Our mission is to advance psychology as a science, as a profession, and as a means of promoting human welfare. Our membership consists of practicing psychologists, academicians, students, retirees, associates, and affiliates.

MePA opposes LD 2082 due to our concerns that this legislation restricts psychologists' use of artificial intelligence tools in clinical and assessment practice. Psychologists are already subject to a binding ethical code that regulates the use of all clinical tools and methods, rendering additional statutory restrictions on AI unnecessary (<https://www.apa.org/ethics/code>).

Thoughtful integration of AI has the potential to enhance diagnostic accuracy, improve access to care, support documentation efficiency, and augment evidence-based decision-making without diminishing professional judgment. Restrictive language that precludes psychologists from using AI could hinder innovation, exacerbate workforce

shortages, and create unnecessary barriers to high-quality mental health services for Maine citizens.

Rather than prohibiting the use of AI, regulation should focus on ethical implementation, robust training standards, informed consent, and clear guidelines to ensure safe, effective, and responsible application within the existing ethical and regulatory framework governing licensed psychologists.

The American Psychological Association has developed guidance and resources to support psychologists in ethically and responsibly integrating artificial intelligence into professional practice. These include:

Fact sheet for AI policy recommendations:

<https://www.apaservices.org/advocacy/artificial-intelligence-factsheet.pdf>

Updated (July 2025) Ethical guidelines for AI use in psychological practice

<https://www.apa.org/topics/artificial-intelligence-machine-learning/ethical-guidance-professional-practice.pdf>

It is for these reasons that we oppose LD2082 as safeguards are already in place.

We encourage you to vote ought not to pass on this piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacy Whitcomb-Smith, PhD".

Stacy Whitcomb-Smith, PhD

Psychologist and President, Maine Psychological Association