

Sunday, February 22nd, 2026

Chairpersons Ingwersen and Meyer, and other members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Luke Jensen, and I am a resident of Lewiston. My testimony is in favor of LD 2103.

Requiring hospitals to adopt cybersecurity plans is something that is long overdue.

Hospitals have reasonably increased their reliance on technology as a way to reduce costs, boost convenience for patients, and increase overall efficiency of their systems.

Increasing reliance on technology comes with expected risks, of course. It only makes sense that healthcare institutions should enact measures/plans to protect the privacy and safety of their patients.

When vulnerable systems are infiltrated, patient health becomes impacted, something many here in the Lewiston area learned last year during the cyber attacks on our local healthcare systems.

My own family was impacted by the incident.

During that time, my grandmother experienced a health complication that sent her to the emergency room. The experience was bad enough on its own, but was made worse by the slow hospital response to getting her the care she needed (both the initial ER visit and the necessary follow-up appointments).

My grandmother struggled to get necessary medication and spent weeks waiting to get answers on what was happening with her heart. Getting answers on anything was extremely difficult and frustrating at that time.

Things got to a point where my mother, in town visiting to assist my grandmother, was forced to go in-person to offices and clinics in order to schedule appointments and get follow-up responses from previous appointments.

If things don't change, then it is only a matter of time before a situation like the cyber attack happens again. No individual should have to deal with what my grandmother dealt with last year.

As a result of my family's experience, I fully support requiring hospital systems to adopt cybersecurity plans. It seems common sense for the age we live in. The risks have to be viewed with clear eyes, and that's what this bill pushes for.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

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