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LD 2196

Honorable Members of the HHS Committee:

I am writing to testify against LD 2196. While the rising cost of healthcare is a difficult and serious problem, the proposed solution in this bill is not the solution for Maine.

These drastic cuts to our healthcare delivery system will result in lack of access to care, exacerbate difficulty in recruiting and retaining qualified healthcare providers, and reduce availability of behavioral health services as well. A proposed solution that is applied across the board to the entire state of Maine is not the way to start; further exploration and involvement with the Maine healthcare delivery system and a deep understanding of the challenges it faces is necessary to avoid a “solution” without dire unintended consequences.

Please do not pass this bill and instead consider other, well informed alternatives in collaboration with Maine’s healthcare leaders in a future session.