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May 14, 2019

Hon. Ned Claxton, Senate Chair
Hon. Danny Martin, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government
Cross Building, Room 214
Augusta, Maine 04332

Re: LD 1708, *An Act to Provide for the Merger of Hospital Administrative District No. 4*

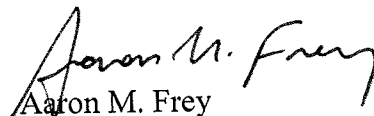
Senate Chair Claxton, House Chair Martin, and Committee members:

I am writing to direct your attention to a provision of LD 1708, *An Act to Provide for the Merger of Hospital Administrative District No. 4 into MRH Corp., a Maine Nonprofit, Nonstock Private Corporation*, that would exempt the transaction from state antitrust laws. The last sentence of Section 2 of the bill provides: "To the extent that any competition is supplanted by the merger, the merger is not subject to state antitrust laws."

It is our understanding that the bill's sponsor intends to withdraw that sentence from the bill. In the event the language is not withdrawn, we request an opportunity to address the Committee about our significant concerns with the language.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Aaron M. Frey
ATTORNEY GENERAL