



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony of Rep. Anne Perry introducing

LD 1498, An Act to Create an Advocacy and Complaint Process for Health Care Providers Within the Bureau of Insurance

Before the Joint Standing Committee Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Good afternoon, Senator Bailey and fellow members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services. I am Representative Anne Perry and I represent ten communities in Washington County. I am here to introduce **LD 1498, An Act to Create an Advocacy and Complaint Process for Health Care Providers Within the Bureau of Insurance**

The purpose of this bill is to help small healthcare providers similar to consumers with questions and complaints. These providers work on a very low margin and find it difficult to negotiate and understand some of the issues they need to deal with and also know if it is in line with requirements.

One provider told me that it took a year to finally be paid for the service she provided. The intent of the bill is to provide information and understanding like the consumer complaint program in the Bureau of Insurance.

I have had an opportunity to talk with the Bureau for a short time about this legislation. One thing they say is that this is a contract issue. My question of the Bureau is this: is the contract with the consumer or the provider or both? We plan to continue discussing this bill to find a path forward.

Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.