



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and distinguished colleagues of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services. I am Representative Joshua Morris, and I represent House District 91, the people of Leeds, Turner, and Wayne. I am pleased to present ***L.D. 1399, An Act to Improve State Oversight of Proposed Health Care Entity Transactions.***

This bill grew out of the much-publicized contractual dispute last year between MaineHealth and Anthem after MaineHealth threatened to terminate Maine Medical Center's participation in Anthem's network. That incident highlighted the lack of competition in healthcare and the lack of meaningful choice among local hospitals.

This legislation is based upon model legislation developed by the National Academy for State Health Policy. It seeks to protect competition and choice by giving the Attorney General to intervene, should he feel it necessary to do so, in transactions that involve a change in control that may result in increased consolidation and reduce competition.

Thank you for your consideration and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have, although there may be others who follow me who can provide additional information.