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Testimony of the Division of Licensing and Certification
Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

In support of LD 67, An Act to Establish Minimum Standards for Certain Urgent Care Facilities

Sponsor: Representative Meyer
Hearing Date: February 5, 2025

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Bill Montejo, and I serve as the Director of the Division of Licensing and Certification (DLC) in the Maine Department of Health and Human Services. I am here today to testify in support of LD 67, *An Act to Establish Minimum Standards for Certain Urgent Care Facilities*.

I would like to thank Representative Meyer for sponsoring this bill. The intent of this proposal is to create minimum standards of licensure of small medical facilities that are not currently overseen by any licensure or regulatory body that addresses quality of care, safety, and patient rights. This will close a current loophole that allows a business to open and provide hands on medical care without medical providers at the facilities and without full disclosure to patients of the ownership and operation of the facility.

As stated in the bill language, the bill would allow healthcare facilities that currently provide care to patients with appropriately licensed medical providers (physicians, nurse practitioners, etc.) on site to continue to function in their current capacity as private practice locations.

Passage of the bill will allow for the creation of minimum standards that would ensure the public is fully aware of the level of care and services provided and who is providing the services. They would also be made aware of the costs/billing processes for those services as well as their rights regarding medical records, billing, and the process for addressing any concerns about the quality of the care.

Thank you for your time and attention. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have and to make myself available for questions at the work session.