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Testimony of Representative Anne Graham sponsoring
LD 84, An Act to Improve the Coordination of Health Care for Minors in State Care
Before the Health and Human Services Committee

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, I am Representative Annie Graham and I am here to present **LD 84, An Act to Improve the Coordination of Health Care for Minors in State Care.**

Many of us here have been involved in conversations with the Department in recent years about how to improve the child welfare system, and more specifically and most importantly, how we ensure that children are safe and healthy in their homes, and in state care. This bill would give some OCFS staff the ability to access HealthInfoNet (HIN) statewide health information exchange system, ensuring that caseworkers have a fuller picture of an individual's health needs prior to working with them. This can include knowing which providers the children are used to seeing, as well as what prescriptions they may be taking. Currently, the caseworker must research this information and engage directly with individual providers to receive it.

I hope you will join me in supporting this bill because it will improve efficiency and help to better support children who find themselves in the care of the state.

The Department will follow my testimony and provide additional information about the proposal. They will be able to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your consideration.