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*Testimony of Anya Trundy, Deputy Commissioner  
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Testifying in Support*

**LD 707, An Act to Amend the Membership of the State Employee Health Commission and  
Make Referential Changes to the Office of Employee Health, Wellness and Workers'  
Compensation**

Presented by Rep. Kristi Mathieson

*To the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services*

Senator Bailey and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, I am Anya Trundy, Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. I am providing testimony in support of LD 707, which is a department-initiated bill. Thank you, Rep. Mathieson, for presenting this bill.

This bill includes two simple components which I will explain separately, but in whole this is a housekeeping bill.

The first objective of this bill concerns the membership of the State Employee Health Commission for purposes of adding a representative of the Fraternal Order of Police to the SEHC. By reference in 5 MRS §285-A, sub-§2(B), bargaining units that represent State of Maine employees are automatically granted membership on the SEHC once recognized under Title 26, chapter 9-B. However, sub-§2 also caps the total membership of the SEHC at 24. As drafted, the bill strikes that cap. We proposed doing this rather than raising the cap so if in the future a new collective bargaining unit were recognized under Title 26, we wouldn't have to return to the Legislature to raise the cap. Labor and Management each vote as a block, each casting one consensus vote on all matters, thus individual representation does not impact the voting balance of the SEHC. That being said, an approximately even balance should be maintained for the purposes of discussion and function, and so we've also proposed adding the State Human Resources Officer as a designated ex officio member.

I do have one friendly amendment to request related to the State Human Resources Officer, which is to clarify in Sec. A-2 of the bill that the State Human Resources Officer may serve as Management Cochair.

The second objective of the bill is even more straightforward. The Office of Employee Health, Wellness and Worker's Compensation (formerly the Office of Employee Health and Wellness) recently underwent a name change in alignment with the reorganization of the Office, bringing Worker's Compensation under the supervisory responsibilities of the Director. The change has been reflected on the Office's website, which now includes Worker's Compensation. Yet, several sections of statute make reference to the Office and its Executive Director. This referential update will make statute consistent with practice.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, I am happy to answer any questions you may have.