

Maine Medical Association



TESTIMONY OF THE MAINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE MAINE OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION In Support Of

LD 710 - An Act to Expand Access and Reduce Barriers to Access to Naloxone Hydrochloride and Other Opioid Overdose-reversing Medications

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services Room 209, Cross Building, Augusta, Maine Monday, March 17, 2025

Good Morning, Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Anne Sedlack, and I am the Director of Advocacy for the Maine Medical Association. I am here on behalf of the Maine Medical Association and Maine Osteopathic Association, testifying in support of LD 710 - An Act to Expand Access and Reduce Barriers to Access to Naloxone Hydrochloride and Other Opioid Overdose-reversing Medications.

The Maine Medical Association (MMA) is a professional organization representing over 4,000 physicians, residents, and medical students in Maine. MMA's mission is to support Maine physicians, advance the quality of medicine in Maine, and promote the health of all Maine people. The Maine Osteopathic Association (MOA) is a professional organization representing more than 1,200 osteopathic physicians, residents, and medical students in Maine whose mission is to serve the Osteopathic profession of the State of Maine through a coordinated effort of professional education, advocacy, and member services to ensure the availability of quality osteopathic health care to the people of this State.

The MMA and MOA's legislative committees have joined to advocate with one voice. We have all determined we should testify in support of LD 689. Naloxone and similar drugs are life-saving medications that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. With the ongoing opioid epidemic in Maine and across the U.S., increasing access to naloxone is crucial in reducing overdose deaths.¹

Thank you for considering the thoughts of Maine's physicians, and we hope you support LD 710.

Thank you,

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¹ Please see <u>https://mainephysicians.org/1000-lives-campaign-for-maine/</u> for more information about our work on reducing opioid related deaths.