

Lasorsa, Megan

From: Natalie Arbour Saltz <natalieasaltz@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2025 9:13 PM
To: Cmte HHS
Subject: Please Vote ONTP on LD 1570 and Protect Community Water Fluoridation

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Dear Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

I'm writing as a dental hygienist and President Elect of the Maine Dental Hygienists' Association to urge you to vote Ought Not to Pass on LD 1570: An Act To Prohibit Fluoridation of the Public Water Supply.

As a dental hygienist in Maine, I've seen firsthand how access to fluoridated water protects vulnerable populations, especially children, from unnecessary pain and disease. Community water fluoridation is a proven, safe, and cost-effective measure that prevents tooth decay and reduces health disparities. For every \$1 spent on water fluoridation, communities save about \$20 in dental treatment costs ([CDC, 2024](#)). Eliminating this critical public health tool would disproportionately harm low-income families and children who already face barriers to dental care.

We are currently facing a shortage in the dental hygiene workforce, which further limits access to preventive oral health care. Without fluoride in the water supply, the burden on families, schools, and the healthcare system will only increase. We cannot afford to remove one of the few tools that helps level the playing field for oral health equity.

Please support Maine's long-standing commitment to oral health, and the work of this committee over the past several legislative sessions, and vote ONTP on LD 1570.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,
Natalie Arbour Saltz, RDH
President Elect, Maine Dental Hygienists' Association
Portland, ME