

Lasorsa, Megan

From: Karen Bazemore <kbazemore@ccmaine.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 12:16 PM
To: Cmte HHS
Cc: Karen Bazemore
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 registered Dental Hygienist to urge you to vote **Ought Not to Pass (ONTP)** on **LD 1570: An Act To Prohibit Fluoridation of the Public Water Supply**.

I work in a non-profit dental clinic that treats MaineCare children and have seen the benefits of water fluoridation firsthand. Under 50% of MaineCare children received a preventative dental service at a dental office last year. Community water fluoridation is one of the most effective public health measures of the last century. It prevents tooth decay, reduces health disparities, and saves money—about **\$20 in dental costs for every \$1 invested according to the CDC**. Adjusting fluoride levels in water to support oral health is safe, thoroughly studied, and endorsed by every major public health and medical organization. Children, especially those in low-income families, benefit the most. With a third of our state being considered low income qualifying for MaineCare, water fluoridation is vital. Did you know tooth decay is the number one reason children miss school?? Fluoridation helps keep kids in school and out of pain by preventing the number one chronic disease of childhood: tooth decay.

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,

Karen Bazemore

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