

Lasorsa, Megan

From: Bordeau, Margaret, DO <Margaret.Bordeau@mainehealth.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2025 5:24 PM
To: Cmte HHS
Subject: Please Vote ONTP on LD 1570 – 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 parent, pediatrician, school physician and fierce public health advocate to urge you to vote **Ought Not to Pass (ONTP)** on **LD 1570: An Act To Prohibit Fluoridation of the Public Water Supply**.

This bill will negatively impact the oral health of children in Maine.

Dental caries are the number one chronic disease in childhood and we need to take all measures to prevent this disease! I see this frequently in my practice. In addition, many of them have a very hard time accessing dental services particularly my patients with MaineCare. These families delay care due to decreased access to care and the outcome is often severe caries causing pain and discomfort. This causes kids to then not sleep well, miss school, and generally have to endure unnecessary pain. These kids face enough challenges in their life, help them keep their teeth healthy.

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. 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,
Maggie Bordeau, DO, MPH
Biddeford, ME
Mother, Pediatrician, school physician, Very concerned citizen