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Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services on LD 890, An Act to Permit the Dispensing of Ivermectin Pursuant to a Standing Order upon Request for COVID-19, Flu and Cancer Patients May 1, 2025

Good morning, Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and esteemed colleagues on the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services.

I am Dave Haggan and I have the honor of representing the people of Senate District 10, which includes three municipalities in Hancock County and nine municipalities in Penobscot County. I am pleased to present LD 890, An Act to Permit the Dispensing of Ivermectin Pursuant to a Standing Order upon Request for COVID-19, Flu and Cancer Patients.

I submitted this bill at the request of our former colleague, the Honorable Chad Grignon. The story of his recovery from cancer is nothing short of inspirational. I am sure you will find his testimony, and that of others speaking in support today, very moving. This potential cure should be a tool available to all Mainers suffering deadly diagnoses.

As with all medications, the risks of taking a medicine must be weighed against the good it will do. This is a decision that a patient and a doctor should make together. And as always, the medication should be taken as prescribed.

There will be people speaking and submitting testimony after me who are far more knowledgeable on this issue than I am and I encourage you to ask questions of them. Thank you for your time today. I encourage you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 890.