



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, distinguished colleagues on the Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services Committee, I am Representative Joshua Morris. I am here to present **LD 1663 An Act Relating to Health Care Transparency and the Maine Health Data Organization.**

The concept behind this bill is simple, commercial payers have their data reported publicly on the Maine Health Data Organization's Compare Maine website. In the interest of full transparency, public payers should also have to report their data as well as have it posted for the public to see. There is a link between what insurance costs and what public payers pay for services. When Maine Care and Medicare pay less than what services cost, providers make up the difference on private insureds.

After conversations with those at MHDO, I understand this is already law and there is a plan in place to start reporting this data beginning in 2026. While the language of this bill as drafted may not be needed, I do think it is worth the committee's time to hear from MHDO on the progress of this work and to determine if we can help with the direction.

Having more public data available is helpful to both the legislature as well as the healthcare system as it will assist us in the future with understanding our healthcare system. This is what the MHDO is designed to do and I believe this will help them as well as us accomplish their mission.