

Committee on Health & Human Services
Tuesday May 6, 2025 RM 209 1 PM

**LD 1746 An Act To Reduce Dental Disease and Ensure
Access to Essential Preventive Dental Care Among
Maine Children**

**Good Afternoon Senator Henry Ingwersen, Rep Michele Meyer and
members of the Committee on Health & Human services**

My name is Bonnie Vaughan IPDH, MEd, MBA. I am a dental hygienist and currently I am Executive Director of Kennebec Valley Family Dentistry, in Augusta. This is a nonprofit dental center serving adults and children.

Daily we see patients with extensive dental disease.

Our mission to provide dental services for Maine residents who have Maine Care and those who have limited or no insurance.

School oral health programs are one of the most effective method of screening and preventive dental disease. Besides community fluoridation, fluoride varnish and sealants are preventive services that stop decay which can be provided in the schools. Not every child can get to a dental office and screening & preventives services are a way to reach all children.

As one of the largest nonprofit dental centers we make referrals from the school hygienists as a priority. The Maine Dental Hygienist Association in addition to the public dental centers support School Oral Health Programs.

Thank you for your time and interest in hearing our SUPPORT for LD 1746
I would be glad to answer questions and attend your work session.

Bonnie Vaughan IPDH, MEd, MBA bssvaughan@msn.com