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Testimony of Rep. Anne-Marie Mastraccio presenting

LD 1883, An Act to Enact the All Maine Health Act

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, I am Anne-Marie Mastraccio, and I represent House District 142, which includes parts of the City of Sanford and the Village of Springvale. I am before you today to present **LD 1883, An Act to Enact the All Maine Health Act**.

This legislation presents a bold and practical plan to address Maine's healthcare needs by establishing a universal, publicly funded healthcare system. LD 1883 aims to modernize our healthcare infrastructure, reduce inefficiencies and control rising costs.

At the heart of this legislation is the creation of the **All Maine Health Plan**. Under this plan, all Maine residents would be eligible for coverage. The healthcare benefits are comprehensive: covering dental, vision, prescription drugs, preventive care, emergency services and substance use treatment. There would be no requirements for prior authorizations for medications or specialist visits, and patients would be free to choose their providers.

The plan would be funded through a combination of income-based premiums, payroll taxes for businesses and federal funds obtained through waivers. The system would be administered by the **All Maine Health Fund**. The **All Maine Health Board**—a 20-member body composed of diverse stakeholders, including patients and providers, would oversee the fund. Board members would be appointed to the board by the Governor.

To ensure fair provider compensation, the board would negotiate payment rates for both professional and institutional providers. These negotiations would consider factors such as historical payment data, regional healthcare needs, the balance between specialty and primary care, and anticipated system savings. Similarly, costs would be negotiated for drugs and medical devices.

The bill also directs the state to develop a fully interoperable electronic health record system, allowing seamless communication among clinics, hospitals, providers and patients. This system would improve coordination of care within Maine and beyond, and strengthen the state's capacity to respond to public health emergencies.

Importantly, the legislation mandates a full fiscal analysis. Implementation of the plan would require approval of the analysis by both the All Maine Health Board and the Maine Legislature. Any federal healthcare funds or waivers identified would need approval from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services before moving forward.

These provisions serve as critical safeguards, ensuring that we establish a publicly accountable healthcare system with built-in financial protections, including reserve accounts, fraud prevention and cost controls. LD 1883 is a thoughtful and actionable response to the serious healthcare challenges facing our state.

Thank you for your time and attention. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have about the bill.