STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
& FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION

Janet T. Mills
Governor

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Director

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TESTIMONY OF PENNY VAILLANCOURT, DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION

DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION IN SUPPORT OF LD 2019

"AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS GOVERNING LICENSURE OF WHOLESALERS AND MANUFACTURERS UNDER THE MAINE PHARMACY ACT" (EMERGENCY PREAMBLE)

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

PUBLIC HEARING: JANUARY 20, 2026, 1:00 PM

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and Members of the Committee, I am Penny Vaillancourt, Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation ("OPOR"). OPOR has 38 licensing boards and programs including the Board of Pharmacy ("Board"). Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of OPOR regarding LD 2019.

The Board's sole statutory purpose is to protect the public and it does so by identifying minimum standards for licensure, investigating allegations of unprofessional or incompetent practice and imposing discipline when deemed appropriate. The Board issues licenses to qualified applicants in two general categories, an individual seeking authorized practice of pharmacy and entities seeking authorized practice to engage in the dispensing, delivering or distribution of prescription drugs. Currently, there are 5,545 actively licensed individuals and 1,984 actively licensed entities.

LD 2019 proposes to amend the licensure qualifications for wholesale pharmacies and prescription drug manufacturers by requiring registration information issued by the US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and registration information issued by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) be submitted to the Board *once obtained.*

The current licensing qualifications for either a wholesale pharmacy or prescription drug manufacturer *requires* proof of a DEA **and** an FDA registration number. However, not all applicants are subject to the federal DEA and FDA registration requirements based on their practice model. Similarly, not all applicants who are subject to DEA and FDA registration requirements will have registration numbers available at the time of licensure application. This bill will remove barriers to the initial licensure process.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for this bill and I would be happy to answer any questions now or at the work session.