



LD 2146, An Act to Increase Access to Critical Vaccinations

**Joint Standing Committee on Health Care, Insurance, and Financial Services
February 10, 2026**

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson, and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services,

I am Madeleine DesFosses, and I am testifying in support of LD 2146 on behalf of the Maine Immunization Coalition (MIC). The MIC is a network of associations, health care systems, and providers working to protect Maine people across their lifespan against vaccine-preventable diseases, by increasing immunization rates through evidence-based information sharing and collaboration.

We are in support of LD 2146 as amended, which seeks to protect and increase access to vaccines, keeping Maine infants, children, and adults safe and healthy from vaccine-preventable diseases. LD 2146 provides an opportunity for Maine to affirm its commitment to evidence-based vaccine recommendations.

At a time where federal bodies like the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices have shifted away from evidence-based recommendations, it is imperative that the State of Maine prioritize and defend science-based recommendations from non-political institutions, like the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American Association of Family Physicians (AAFP), and American College of Gynecology and Obstetrics (ACOG). For decades, these organizations have been publishing vaccine recommendations and schedules based on extremely rigorous and sound scientific evidence, and each regularly reviews new and existing research to ensure the safety of the patient populations they serve. Maine's physicians already rely on the recommendations of the AAP, AAFP, and ACOG. LD 2146 simply ensures continued access to the vaccines recommended by these trusted medical institutions without political interference or lapses in federal funding.

LD 2146 also protects access to critical vaccines by granting licensed pharmacists immunity from liability when administering vaccines recommended by the AAP, AAFP, and ACOG. While we fully agree that pharmacists who administer vaccines based on evidence-backed

recommendations should not face civil action, we believe that this protection should be extended to physicians and other healthcare providers who prescribe and administer vaccinations. We respectfully request that the committee amend the proposed legislation to include physicians and other healthcare professionals qualified to administer vaccines in Section 4 of this proposed bill.

The Maine Immunization Coalition urges the committee to vote 'Ought to Pass' on LD 2146 including the sponsors amendment, and amend Section 4 to include physicians and other healthcare professionals who provide immunizations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Madeleine DesFosses
Advocacy & Public Health Manager
Maine AAP

MIC Steering Committee Members in Support:

Maine Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
MaineHealth
Northern Light Health
Maine Families for Vaccines
Maine Medical Association
Maine Osteopathic Association.