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February 24, 2026

AARP Maine Testimony in Support of LD 2103 An Act Requiring Hospitals to Adopt Cybersecurity Plans

Greetings Chairs Ingwersen and Meyer and members of the Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Bridget Quinn, I am an Associate State Director of Advocacy and Outreach with AARP Maine. On behalf of our nearly 200,000 members statewide, thank you for the opportunity to share testimony today. Today, I am testifying in favor of LD 2103. We also want to thank Representative McCabe for bringing forward this legislation.

Data security is a growing area of concern and issue area for legislation to address. As you all know the legislation brought forward to you today is in response to a real issue and data breach that affected Mainers.¹ The American Hospital Association reported in 2025 that Health care had the most reported cyberthreats in 2024.²

Considering growing cyber threats and attacks AARP has worked to develop a policy framework regarding legislation that seeks to prevent and reduce harm caused by such attacks. We support policy that:

- Safeguard consumer choice and control
- Ensure heightened protection for sensitive data
- Promote privacy and security by design
- Foster transparency
- Ensure accountability

These principles are reflected in LD 2103. The fact is that cyber attacks have real effects on health care consumers. There can be delays in care, lack of access to medications and sensitive personal, financial and health information at risk of being exposed and exploited when a cyber-attack happens on a health care facility. Beyond the immediate impacts and fallout of recent cyberattacks, these incidents underscore the ongoing risks that patients bear of having their personal health and financial information compromised.

¹ <https://www.mainepublic.org/health/2026-01-14/data-breach-last-year-at-central-maine-healthcare-affected-more-than-145-000>

² <https://www.aha.org/news/headline/2025-05-12-report-health-care-had-most-reported-cyberthreats-2024>

This calls for the need to be proactive and ensure that we have plans centralized. Being better prepared will help Maine mitigate the harm that cyber-attacks cause health care consumers. For these reasons we urge the committee to support LD 2103.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. If you have questions for me, I can be reached at bquinn@aarps.org or at 207-272-8563.

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