

**Cayford, Edna**

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**From:** Allan Fortin <fortindentureclinic@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2026 2:41 PM  
**To:** Cmte HCIFS  
**Subject:** Opposition to LD 2206

**This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.**

**Allan Fortin**  
President  
Maine Licensed Denturists Association  
4 North Circle Drive, Fairfield Me 04937

February 23, 2026

**To:** Members of the Maine Legislature

**Re:** Opposition to LD 2206 – Medical Qualifications and Clinical Competency Concerns

Dear Honorable Members of the Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services Committee

On behalf of the Maine Licensed Denturists Association and our members, I write to express strong opposition to LD 2206. My concerns are rooted not in professional protectionism, but in patient safety, medical competency, and the clinical realities of removable prosthetic care.

Denturism is not a purely technical or retail service. It is a healthcare discipline requiring formal education, clinical training, and demonstrated competency in areas that directly affect patient health. Licensed denturists are specifically trained to evaluate oral tissues, recognize pathological conditions, assess anatomical limitations, and identify medical factors that may influence treatment outcomes. These skills are essential safeguards for the public.

LD 2206, as proposed, risks weakening these safeguards by permitting individuals without equivalent medical education and clinical training to perform functions that inherently involve health assessment and patient risk. The fabrication and delivery of dentures is inseparable from the evaluation of living oral structures. Ill-fitting prosthetics, undetected disease, or improper case selection can result in tissue damage, accelerated bone loss, chronic pain, nutritional compromise, and delayed diagnosis of serious conditions.

Competency in denturism is not limited to the mechanical construction of a device. It includes:

- Recognition of abnormal oral conditions requiring referral
- Understanding systemic health factors affecting prosthetic treatment
- Functional assessment of the masticatory system
- Infection control and patient safety protocols
- Ongoing clinical judgment throughout care

**Reducing or bypassing these competency requirements introduces preventable risk.** Patients often present with complex medical histories, compromised oral health, or undiagnosed conditions. Without appropriate training, critical warning signs may be missed, placing vulnerable individuals at harm.

Maine has long recognized the importance of licensure standards to ensure safe, competent care. Altering those standards without preserving equivalent medical qualifications undermines the very purpose of professional regulation: protection of the public.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to oppose LD 2206 or substantially revise it to maintain rigorous education, clinical training, and competency standards consistent with healthcare delivery.

Thank you for your time and for your continued commitment to patient safety and public health.

Respectfully,

Allan Fortin  
President  
Maine Licensed Denturists Association

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