



**RETAIL
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MAINE**
Voice of Maine Retail

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February 11, 2021

Senator Heather Sanborn, Chair
Representative Denise Tepler, Chair
Members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee

RE: Testimony in Opposition to LD 172, An Act to Improve Prescription Information Access

Dear Senator Sanborn, Representative Tepler and members of the Health Coverage and Financial Services Committee:

My name is Curtis Picard and I am the President and CEO of the Retail Association of Maine. I am a resident of Topsham. We have more than 350 members statewide and represent retailers of all sizes including a number of chain and independent pharmacies. We respectfully oppose LD 172.

Last year, an identical bill was presented in LD 2116. We opposed LD 2116 and the committee unanimously rejected the bill, but sent a letter to the Maine Board of Pharmacy requesting that the board reach out to licensees about how they assist patients with visual impairments. Recently, the Maine Board of Pharmacy discussed a document to be shared with licensees about the best practices pharmacies and pharmacists can utilize is assisting visually impaired patients. The document includes some recommended best practices developed by the National Council of Disability. Those recommendations are available here:

<https://ncd.gov/publications/2016/best-practices-accessible-prescription-drug-labeling>

https://ncd.gov/sites/default/files/ADLP_508.pdf

Given these national, consistent recommendations, we feel that LD 172 is unnecessary. We support patients having as much information as possible for the medications they are taking, and we do not think LD 172 is the best way to achieve that.

Thank you for the consideration of our comments.

Curtis Picard, CAE
President and CEO