

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION 35 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0035

Anne L. Head Commissioner

January 27, 2021

Senator Heather Sanborn, Chair Representative Denise Tepler, Chair Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services 100 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0100

RE: LD 178 An Act to Reduce Waste of Prescription Medications

Dear Senator Sanborn, Representative Tepler, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation does not take a position on this bill but shares the following observations:

The proposed bill may create some additional work renewing prescriptions for patients, providers and staff. For example, Podiatrists, currently and often, prescribe a 3-month course of Terbinafine for the treatment of fungal nail infections. The proposed bill would allow the doctor to only prescribe one month of the three-month course and then have to provide a second prescription for next 2 months of that course.

Also, the summary of the bill should refer to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses with prescriptive authority. Registered Nurses do not have prescriptive authority.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We would be happy to answer questions at the work session.

Sincerely,

Anne L. Head

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