



**Testimony of Katherine Pelletreau
to the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services**

Neither For Nor Against

LD 541 An Act to Improve Health Care Data Analysis

March 9th, 2021

Good Morning Senator Sanborn, Representative Tepler, Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services:

My name is Katherine Pelletreau and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Association of Health Plans (MeAHP). MeAHP has five members including Aetna, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Cigna, Community Health Options and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care. Collectively, MeAHP's members provide or administer health insurance coverage to over 600,000 Maine people. The organization's mission is to improve the health of Maine people by promoting affordable, safe and coordinated healthcare.

This bill is another of those brought forward from last session that reflects compromise language previously worked on.

We had significant concerns with pieces of the original bill and appreciate Rep. Perry convening interested parties, being willing to hear our perspective, and making changes to improve the bill.

That said, we remain concerned about what appear to be longer term efforts to ultimately *require* carriers to use a MHDO developed multi-payor provider database.

Should this effort at MHDO be successful and the new tool effective, carriers will consider its use. However, given that health plans are the ones responsible via law and rule for provider directories, not MHDO, a requirement is inappropriate.

Regarding the formation of a MHDO Health Information Advisory Committee on public reporting of health care trends, we are generally supportive of efforts to improve data driven policy making.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.