



**Testimony in Support of  
LD 1117, An Act To Prevent Excessive Prices for Prescription Drugs**

**Presented by Kimberly Cook**

**April 13, 2021**

As Maine's only nonprofit CO-OP health insurance company, we exist for the benefit of our Members and our mission which is to provide affordable, high quality benefits that promote health and wellbeing.

Prescription drugs are a significant percentage of the total amount Americans spend on healthcare and LD 1117 would protect Maine people from excessive increases to the cost of some prescription drugs. Health Options is supportive of efforts to reign in the price of prescription drugs, and we actively work to reduce the costs our Members pay for medically necessary pharmaceuticals.

Our Chronic Illness Support Program is designed to improve the health of Members with chronic conditions such as asthma and diabetes while also saving them money. Our program provides Members with access to \$0 Tier 1 generic medications used to treat chronic illness and 50% cost reductions for select Tier 2 and Tier 3 preferred brand medications used to treat chronic illness.

We are also proactive in identifying and contacting our Members who could be saving money on prescriptions through our ScriptSaver program. We recognize that lowering the cost of prescription drugs is essential for Maine people to receive affordable care. Our programs to reduce the costs of prescription drugs, though successful and appreciated by Members, would be more effective with the passage of LD 1117. Passing this bill prohibiting excessive price increases for generic and off-patent prescription drugs sold in the State of Maine is a tangible step in the right direction.

We urge the Committee to support LD 1117. Thank you for the opportunity to present our comments.