

Cathleen London, MD
40 Main St.
Milbridge, ME 04658

Committee On Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services
Clerk Christian Ricci
HCIFS@legislature.maine.gov

LD 1117

An Act To Prevent Excessive Prices for Prescription Drugs

LD 675 An Act To Protect Maine Consumers from Unsupported Price Increases on Prescription Medicines by Creating an Independent Review Process

LD 686 An Act To Increase Prescription Drug Pricing Transparency

Senator Heather Sanborn – Chair
Senator Stacy Brenner
Senator Trey Stewart
Representative Denise Tepler – Chair
Representative Poppy Aford
Representative Mark Blier
Representative Heidi Brooks
Representative Jon Connor
Representative Richard Evans
Representative Kristi Mathieson
Representative Gina Melaragno
Representative Joshua Morris
Representative Tracy Quint

Dear Committee Members,

Prescription Drug prices are a huge burden on my patients and this has only become worse with cost shifting by insurance companies with large out of pocket deductibles, the use of pharmacy benefit managers and backroom deals, and increasingly the pharmaceutical industry's stranglehold on the economy.

I am quite familiar with wholesale medication costs as I have a dispensary in my office and deal with four different wholesalers.

I have been a physician for 26 years. I struggle to understand why medications that have been around since I was a small child and SHOULD cost pennies, have been increasing at alarming rates.

Pharmaceutical companies use excuses of the need to recoup the costs of research, however these are medications that have long ago been repaid. The industry has had record profits and my patients are struggling.

COVID has exacerbated that.

These bills seek to address these problems. Our state has an aging population and a sick population. We need to find a way to make medications affordable for all.

Thank you for your time.

Cathleen London, MD
JD Candidate Maine Law 2022