



STATE OF MAINE
MAINE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD
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JANET I
GOVE



NOAH NESIN, MD
CHAIR

April 12, 2021

The Honorable Heather Sanborn, Chair
The Honorable Denise Tepler, Chair
The Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Dear Senators and Representatives,

On behalf of the Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board (MPDAB), I am writing in support of LD 120 "An Act To Lower Health Care Costs through the Establishment of the Office of Affordable Health Care". The MPDAB was established in 2019 pursuant to [MRS Title 5 Chapter 167-1](#). The Board's purpose is to: determine annual spending targets for prescription drugs purchased by public payors; determine which public payors are likely to exceed the spending targets; and determine spending targets on specific prescription drugs that may cause affordability challenges to enrollees in a public payor health plan.

LD 120 would empower the work of the MPDAB by 1) creating an Office of Affordable Health Care and 2) providing staffing assistance to the MPDAB with the approval of the Legislative Council. We envision that the MPDAB would work closely with the Office of Affordable Health Care and coordinate our efforts to recommend methodologies to reduce health care costs. The complexity of drug costs in the US health care system and the subsequent scope of work of the MPDAB necessitates staffing assistance to bring meaningful recommendations back to the legislature.

For the reasons above, we ask for your support of LD 120 and a strong 'ought to pass' from the committee. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Noah Nesin, MD, FAAFP
Chair, MPDAB

Kenneth McCall, PharmD, FAPhA
Co-Chair, MPDAB