

## Maine Universal Health Care

Martin Luther King said, “Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.” All Americans deserve basic health care, just like they deserve a basic education. Americans have had the right to a public education since 1643, so it is time for all Americans to have health care. Its time has come; it will be good for us all.

In 2015, the World Health Organization passed a resolution urging governments to move towards a future where “all individuals and communities receive the health services they need, without suffering financial hardship”.

All other developed countries have universal healthcare, which is a basic human right. France has the best health care system in the world. They have a basic health plan for all citizens (the “Ford” of health care) and private insurance on top of that (the “Cadillac” of health care). Private insurance could still play a role here, just like private schools do in education.

With COVID-19, tens of millions of workers in the U.S. have lost their health insurance. We must stop tying health care to employment.

We need an equitable health plan in Maine. I urge you to support LD 1045, “An Act to Support Universal Health Care”. Our children and grandchildren deserve a future where if they get sick, they don’t have to worry about paying for health care.

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