



**Testimony in Support of**

**LD 1390, An Act To Maximize Health Care Coverage for the Uninsured through Easy Enrollment in the MaineCare Program or in a Qualified Health Plan in the Marketplace**

**presented by Kim Cook**

**May 12, 2021**

Community Health Options is Maine's only nonprofit CO-OP health insurance company. We are based in Lewiston and provide health insurance in the individuals, small group and large group markets, as well as providing health plan administration for self-funded plans through Pioneer ASO. Health Options exists for the benefit of our members and our mission which is to provide affordable, high quality benefits that promote health and wellbeing.

We support this bill and appreciate Representative Evans' and the cosponsors' efforts to bring it forward. LD 1390 presents a common sense and practical approach to connect Maine people to the health coverage that they qualify for. This bill will have very real benefits to those who lack coverage and to the broader health care system by reducing the number of people without coverage and access to health care.

We support efforts to ensure Mainers are aware of their coverage options and understand how to enroll in the health coverage that matches their eligibility, whether that is MaineCare, through the Marketplace, or coverage options through the American Rescue Plan Act. A simple enrollment process paired with a robust educational campaign is most likely to succeed in the first year. We appreciate the opportunity to share these comments and look forward to the ongoing partnership with the state to advance increased coverage opportunities for all Maine people.