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I am writing in support LD 1045 and universal, high quality, affordable healthcare for the people of Maine. Almost one third of health care dollars are never spent on patient care. That money goes for marketing, administrative costs, and to pay shareholders and the multimillion dollar salaries of insurance company executives. Even though our country spends more on healthcare than any other nation, we rarely, if ever, are in the top ten countries in measurements of health quality. Our healthcare system is badly broken and LD 1045 is a sensible and cost-effective way to fix it while improving the health of Mainers.

As a Family Physician who practiced in rural Maine for almost 30 years, I've seen how delayed healthcare leads to worsening illness and more expensive health care. I've seen families having to choose between buying medications...or buying food. I have felt the pressure from 3rd party payors trying to get me to order the tests and treatment that are best for their bottom-line, rather than what is best for the patient.

Please support LD 1045. We need to join the rest of the civilized world and provide universal healthcare for Mainers. It will save lives. It will save money...and the money spent will go towards patient care rather than for-profit companies. Thank you. Paul Forman MD, Albion, Maine