Edward Miller Hallowell

Good morning Senator Sanborn, Representative Tepler, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services. My name is Ed Miller. I am a resident of Hallowell and am a retired public health professional with more than 40 years of experience and involvement in public health policy in Maine. I worked for 13 years at Maine CDC as the Health Promotion and Education Division Director followed by 20 years as CEO of the American Lung Association in Maine and 10 years as the Senior VP for Public Policy for the American Lung Association of the Northeast.

I am writing today in favor 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.

You will hear from many experts on this topic today. My purpose is simply to lend my support to this life saving proposal. Although I am retired, I am still active as a volunteer board member of the Maine Health Access Foundation and the Maine Public Health Association. I am not speaking for either of these groups today but as a citizen of Maine who is committed to assuring access to quality health care for all people in Maine. This bill is a positive step forward in removing barriers to obtaining MaineCare coverage.

I appreciate your consideration of LD 1390 and urge your unanimous support. Thank you.