



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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21 Mar 23

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: LD 940, An Act to Allow Pharmacists to Provide Services Through Telehealth and Vending Machines at Federally Qualified Health Centers

Committee Chair Senator Bailey, Committee Chair Representative Perry and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services,

Thank you for allowing me to bring forth testimony for LD 940, An Act to Allow Pharmacists to Provide Services Through Telehealth and Vending Machines at Federally Qualified Health Centers.

A Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) is a non-profit organization that operates under charter from the Health Resources and Services Administration. An FQHC qualifies for funding under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act, qualifies for enhanced reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid, delivers comprehensive healthcare services to rural, under-served areas and offers a sliding fee scale. Services most often include preventive health services, dental services, mental health and substance abuse services, but can include transportation services necessary for adequate patient care and specialty care to include occupational therapy, chiropractic care, massage therapy, optometry, pharmacy services and others. FQHCs must have an ongoing quality assurance program and are governed by a board of directors.

As the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors for a large FQHC operating multiple clinics in the State of Maine, I have seen the positive impact on rural healthcare in providing pharmacy services. By offering these services, we have allowed our patients access to the 340B program, allowing them huge savings in prescription drug costs as well as offering access in rural areas, including rural pharmacy delivery.

House District 31

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Passage of this bill would allow the same benefits to smaller FQHC clinics that do not have the space, staff or resources to operate their own, in-house pharmacies.

I encourage the committee to consider this legislation and support it with a vote of 'Ought To Pass'. I thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad R. Perkins", written in a cursive style.

Rep. Chad R. Perkins
District 31

ATT:

CF:

Committee Chair Senator Bailey

Committee Chair Representative Perry

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee Members

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