

Maine Association of Psychiatric Physicians



Executive Council

President

Matthew Davis,
MD, DFAPA

Immediate Past

President

Henry Skinner,
MD, DFAPA

Treasurer

Sarah Muscat,
MD

APA Assembly

Reps

Andres Abreu,
MD
Annya Tisher,
MD

Councilors

David Moltz,
MD, DLFAPA
Dylan
McKenney, MD

Early-Career

Rep

Cameron
Bonney, MD

Resident

Fellow Rep

Kaitlin Clifford,
MD

Public Affairs

Rep

Testimony in Favor of LD 118, An Act To Address Maine's Shortage of Behavioral Health Services for Minors

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer, distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Henry Skinner, and I write today on behalf of the Maine Association of Psychiatric Physicians, of which I am the immediate past president, in strong support of LD 118.

For very modest effort and no money, this bill would provide the Department with data that will provide an excellent indication of how well the menu of mental health services is serving Maine's most vulnerable youth. Because emergency Departments are the shelter of last resort for parents of out-of-control children, their utilization is strongly reflective of how well both preventive and curative youth mental health intervention are working. Youth will not be "stuck" in emergency rooms if there are enough acute psychiatric beds available and if there is enough outpatient therapy, psychiatry and in-home interventions to prevent crises.

James Maier,
MD, DLFAPA

Legislative Rep
Ed Pontius, MD

Executive
Director
Dianna Poulin,
BS-CHE

The only improvement I could imagine in this bill would be a provision for collection of similar data regarding adults.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this measure.

Henry Skinner, MD
ME Association of Psychiatric Physicians

Testimony in Favor of LD 118, An Act To Address Maine's Shortage of Behavioral Health Services for Minors

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer, distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Henry Skinner MD, and I write today on behalf of the Maine Association of Psychiatric Physicians, of which I am the immediate past president, in strong support of LD 118.

For very modest effort and no money, this bill would provide the Department with data that will provide an excellent indication of how well the menu of mental health services is serving Maine's most vulnerable youth. Because emergency Departments are the shelter of last resort for parents of out-of-control children, their utilization is strongly reflective of how well both preventive and curative youth mental health intervention are working. Youth will not be "stuck" in emergency rooms if there are enough acute psychiatric beds available and if there is enough outpatient therapy, psychiatry and in-home interventions to prevent crises.

The only improvement I could imagine in this bill would be a provision for collection of similar data regarding adults.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this measure.