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I think this is a hugely important step to take in our State's legislation: to allow people in Maine to access the medical care we need to thrive, no matter what our citizenship status is. The foundations of this country are built on migrations, some people brought here by force in the case of slavery and others arriving by choice and their own free will, including my own ancestors. I believe we need free healthcare to support and empower all people, whether indigenous, lifetime Mainer, or newly arrived. Everyone deserves the same access and quality of care, especially during these incredibly uncertain times of forced migration due to climate change and other political factors around the world. There is no denying that our collective and individual health are inseparable from one another. The health of our community directly depends on the individual health of those around us. It is time to demand and deliver the highest standard of healthcare to every human being in this state, because healthcare is a human right.