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**Testimony of Rep. Rebecca Millett presenting  
LD 745, An Act To Strengthen Maine's Public Health by Expanding Access to Certain  
Health Programs and Services  
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services**

Good afternoon Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer and esteemed members of the Committee on Health and Human Services. I am Rebecca Millett and I represent House District 30 which is most of Cape Elizabeth. I am pleased to present **LD 745, An Act To Strengthen Maine's Public Health by Expanding Access to Certain Health Programs and Services**.

In 2009, Maine passed legislation that authorized the universal purchase of vaccines for Maine children through the establishment of the Maine Vaccine Board (MVB). The Board oversees the Maine Universal Childhood Immunization Program and created a process by which the State of Maine purchases all childhood vaccines for children who are not eligible for the Vaccines For Children (VFC) program and distributes them to providers free of charge.

Providers no longer need to buy private vaccines and potentially face being reimbursed less than the actual cost. The assessments for vaccines are paid by the health insurer, so the provider no longer needs to finance vaccine inventory. The cost of vaccines procured by the state's department of health through the CDC VFC contract are significantly lower than privately procured vaccines. Hence, insurers and other payers ultimately pay less for needed vaccines. And when insurers pay less, Maine businesses and families pay less.

Most recently, the savings for the MUCIP program were estimated at roughly 30% for 2019-2020 which was nearly \$6 million dollars in 2020.