



PO Box 135
Woolwich, Maine 04579
Amie.marzen@gmail.com
207-441-0450
www.mnpa.us

*27 Years of **Full Practice Authority** as Healthcare Providers for the People of Maine*

March 24, 2022

Testimony in Support of LD 811 As Amended

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health & Human Services

My name is Pamela Cahill, I live in Woolwich, Maine and represent the Maine Nurse Practitioner Association.

MNPA is testifying in support of what we believe is the intent of the amended version of LD 811. Our belief is that this amended bill intends to provide a funding rebasing effort for family planning organizations throughout Maine in a similar way as LD 1787 did for Maine's Federal Qualified Health Centers.

Naturally, when family planning services are discussed, we think of birth control, contraceptives, STDs and UTIs however, the reality is that family planning services provide so much more, and in many parts of Maine serve as the main primary healthcare provider for both men and women. These healthcare services are often provided at a lower cost and help keep patients out of higher cost alternatives such as emergency departments and provide continuity of care.

We are all aware of the provider shortages in Maine and often long wait times to get appointments for basic healthcare services. Family planning services help to lessen this burden while providing quality, affordable and compassionate healthcare in a family friendly atmosphere and should be supported.

The Maine Nurse Practitioner Associations urges your support of LD 811 as amended.

Thank you for your consideration.

Pamela Cahill
pam@mnpa.us
207-441-0450