

Kristen Chapman  
Sumner

To the members of the Committee on State and Local Government,

I am in support of LD 1039, An Act to Safeguard the People's Voice in a State of Emergency.

Last year, because an unending State of Emergency was declared and continued month after month, my 16 year old daughter did not receive necessary dental care in a proper or reasonable manner. Because there was confusion with dental providers regarding the Governor's State of Emergency restricting the treatment that oral surgeons could administer, my daughter ultimately had to endure, under only mild sedation, the painful extractions of two impacted wisdom teeth. My daughter had been given antibiotic treatment in hopes to delay the necessary surgical removal until the time when general anesthesia could be administered. Due to the pain, she had been unable to eat solid food for a month prior. The restrictions placed upon oral surgeons administering general anesthesia did not lift in the timeframe she needed. Consequently, she was only able to have two of her teeth removed, when she would otherwise have been able to have all four taken out - simultaneously - and with the proper use of general anesthesia. As a result of this traumatizing experience, she needed to complete a second full dose of antibiotics, and must now await a second surgical procedure to remove the remaining two teeth.

We could not have imagined that a Declaration of Emergency would last so long, resulting in the kind of treatment expected in impoverished countries. Under this prolonged, unending State of Emergency, medical and dental care was deferred to the point that what was intended to PROTECT the public actually became HARMFUL to the citizens.

Please vote OUGHT TO PASS on LD 1039, An Act to Safeguard the People's Voice in a State of Emergency. The Legislative Branch has been sidelined while Governor Mills has, for the past year, continued unchecked with the mandates, restrictions and limitations put upon the people of Maine.

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