
Advocacy for Physicians

Emergency Medicine Leadership Summit

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Maine Legislature: 131st Legislature

Governor: Janet Mills (D)

Lieutenant Governor: None

Senate Control: 22 D/13 R

House Control: 80 D/68 R/ 2 Independent/ 1 Vacancy

2024 Session Dates: The legislature convened on January 3, 2024. Statutory adjournment is April 17, 2024

Joint Committees (16): MOA Issues are primarily worked in HCIFS and HHS

Physician Legislators

Rep. Samuel Zager (D), FM, Portland

Rep. Jane Pringle (D), FM, -Windham



MOA/MMA Joint Legislative Committee

Weekly Calls: Thursday Nights @ 6PM

MMA/MOA Leads

- Kathryn Brandt, DO– MOA Chair
- Kevin Fickenscher,, MD, MMA Co-Chair
- Henk Goorhuis, MD, MMA Co-Chair

Staff Team

- Andrew MacLean, MMA CEO
- Amanda Mahan, MOA Executive Director
- Anne Sedlack, MMA Dir. Of Advocacy
- Sarah Lepoff, MMA
- Rai Dominguez, MMA Extern
- Saleh Gani, MOA Contractor
- James Bass, Esq. & Charlie Soltan, Esq.



Join us! Weekly calls are open to all MOA/MMA members!

MOA/MMA Joint Legislative Committee Weekly Calls: *Agenda Framework*

1. Opening (5 minutes)
 - a. [Joint Legislative Committee Ground Rules](#)
 - b. How do I ... ?
2. What Has Happened? (10 minutes)
 - a. Testimony Provided
 - b. Monitored
3. What is on the Horizon? (10 Minutes)
 - a. New Bill Overview
4. In Depth Bill Discussion (20 minutes)
5. Member Issues (10 minutes)
6. Closing (5 minutes)



Maine Legislature: School of Rock



Bill's Origin Story

1. Idea Drafting
2. Sponsor
3. Cloture (bill submission deadline)
4. LR (Legislative Record)
5. Revisor of Statutes Drafting
6. LD (Legislative Document)

Committee's Possession

1. Referral to Committee of Jurisdiction
2. Public Hearing
3. Work Session
4. Vote (OTP, ONTP, OTP-A)
5. Language Review

House/Senate

1. Floor Debate
2. Vote
3. Send to the other body (depends on who is the sponsor)
4. Repeat Debate and Vote
5. Procedural Hot Potato
6. Fiscal Note?

Governor's Choice

1. Sign
2. Veto ($\frac{2}{3}$ vote in the House and Senate to override)
3. Doesn't Sign?
In Session: 10 days and becomes law ;
Not in session? Pocket Veto

Enactment

1. Regular: 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature
2. Emergency: the day that the Governor signs it

Offensive: [LD 353](#): An Act Concerning Substance Use Disorder, Treatment, Recovery, Prevention and Education
Defensive: [LD 1955](#): An Act to Require Hospitals and Hospital-affiliated Providers to Provide Financial Assistance for Medical Care

Advocacy: How do I get involved?

4. Active

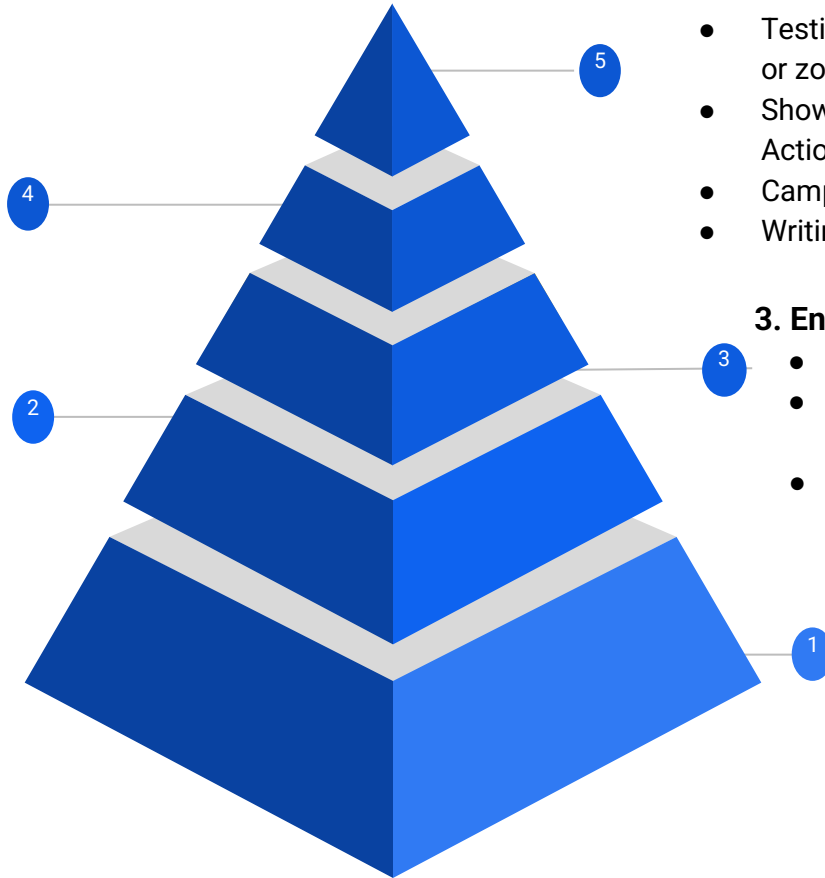
- Doctor of the Day (Email Sarah Lepoff at slepoff@mainemed.com to sign up!)
- Submitting Written Testimony

2. Passive

- Joining the MOA/MMA as a member
- Filling out the Advocacy Google Form to Share your thoughts

Advocacy Tips

- Participate in any way you can
- Stick with what you know
- Don't be afraid to follow up!



5. Gold Star

- Testifying Before Legislature (In person or zoom!)
- Showing up for Advocacy Day of Actions and talking to legislators
- Campaign Support for Legislators
- Writing Letter to the Editors/Op-Eds

3. Engaged

- Joining the Calls on Thursdays
- Emailing Legislators on Advocacy Alerts
- Building Relationships with legislators

1. Daily Life

- Physician in the exam room, hospital, community...

Advocacy: Written testimony



Maine Medical
Association



Maine
Osteopathic
Association

TESTIMONY OF THE MAINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

AND

THE MAINE OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

IN SUPPORT OF

L.D. 2080, An Act to Update the Sex Education and Consent Curriculum

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
Room 208, Cross Building, Augusta, Maine
Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Good afternoon, Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. My name is Anne Sedlack, and I am the Director of Advocacy for the Maine Medical Association. I am submitting this testimony in support of LD 254, An Act to Update the Sex Education and Consent Curriculum on behalf of the Maine Medical Association and the Maine Osteopathic Association.

The Maine Medical Association (MMA) is a [REDACTED]. The Maine Osteopathic Association (MOA) is a [REDACTED].

This year MMA and MOA's legislative committees have joined together to advocate from one voice. And our committee has determined that it is important to testify in support of LD 254 and its amended language proposed by Senator Daughtry for a number of reasons.

First, (Second, Finally)

Thank you for considering the support of Maine's physician community about L.D. 254. We cannot pass up the opportunity to educate our young people about sex and reproductive health because it will affect the rest of their lives. We urge an "ought to pass" vote on this bill. I would be happy to respond to any questions you may have.

Thank you,

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Anne Sedlack, Esq., M.S.W.
Director of Advocacy, Maine Medical Association

MOA/MMA Priority Issues: Overview

- Health Care Reform
 - Reducing administrative burden by improving the Prior Authorization Process (L.D.796), enforcing current law, and establishing a provider complaint process; Medical Billing; Price Transparency)
- Reducing youth tobacco use by banning the sale of flavored tobacco.
- Expanding access to behavioral and mental health services.
- Protecting health data (carve out healthcare in data privacy bills)
- Supporting and expanding the rural healthcare workforce in Maine.
- Increasing access to affordable and quality health care.
- Improving access to Substance Use Treatment.
- Gun Safety Reform
- Cannabis Bills: maintaining edible labels for safety, opposing public consumption sites



MMA/MOA

Priority Issues:

Gun Safety Reform

Fast Facts

- [LD 2237](#) - An Act to Strengthen Public Safety, Health and Well-being by Expanding Services and Coordinating Violence Prevention Resources (Public Safety and Mental Health)
- [LD 2086](#) - An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Disposition of Forfeited Firearms ([amended language can be found here](#)) (Ban on Bump Stocks and Similar Devices)
- [LD 2119](#) - An Act to Support Suicide Prevention by Allowing the Voluntary Waiver of Firearm Rights
- [LD 2224](#) - An Act to Strengthen Public Safety by Improving Maine's Firearm Laws and Mental Health System (Background Checks and Extreme Risk Protection Orders)
- [LD 2238](#) - An Act to Address Gun Violence in Maine by Requiring a Waiting Period for Certain Firearm Purchase (72 Hour Waiting Period)
- [LD 2283](#) - An Act to Enact the Crisis Intervention Order Act to Protect the Safety of the Public (Red Flag Law)

Audience?

1. Legislators in the second district
2. Governor's Office

Priority Issues:

LD 1215 - An Act to End the Sale of Flavored Tobacco

Fast Facts

1. Tobacco use among Maine youth has been skyrocketing. 4 out of 5 kids who have used tobacco started with a flavored product.
2. 1 in 3 Maine high school students have used e-cigarettes
3. Menthol cigarettes are the most dangerous flavored tobacco product. Menthol flavoring makes it easier for youth to start smoking and become addicted to cigarettes.
4. People who smoke menthol cigarettes are also less likely to successfully quit smoking than other people who smoke.

Audience?

1. House of Representative Members
2. Governor's Office

MMA/MOA

Priority Issues:

Data Privacy

(LD 1973 v LD

1977)

Fast Facts

1. Need to Exempt Health Care because
 - a. Under federal law, Physicians are required to be compliant with the HIPAA Privacy Rule, 45 C.F.R., Parts 160 & 164
 - b. Under state law, Physicians are required to be compliant with state laws like 22 M.R.S.A. §1711-C which deals with Confidentiality of Health Care Information.
 - c. Further, under Physicians' professional code of ethics, American Medical Association and American Osteopathic Association require us to keep our patient's data confidential.

Audience?

1. Judiciary Committee Members

How to Get Involved in MOA/MMA Efforts?

Contact Anne Sedlack at ASedlack@mainemed.com

All are welcome to join us at weekly legislative meetings Thursdays @6PM:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81517735523?pwd=rOApAbGzDc7Tmy9m0CgokaUmCNn2Td.1>

Meeting ID: 815 1773 5523

Passcode: 010424

Share your input via our anytime survey

<https://forms.gle/w1xRikTzM6PHKP9X8>

