

## MaineHealth Local Health Systems

Franklin Community  
Health Network  
LincolnHealth  
MaineHealth Care At Home  
Maine Behavioral Healthcare  
Memorial Hospital  
Maine Medical Center  
Mid Coast-Parkview Health  
NorDx  
Pen Bay Medical Center  
Southern Maine Health Care  
Waldo County General Hospital  
Western Maine Health

## Part of the MaineHealth Family

MaineHealth Accountable  
Care Organization

## MaineHealth Affiliates

MaineGeneral Health  
New England Rehabilitation  
Hospital of Portland  
St. Mary's Health System

## Testimony of Sarah Calder, MaineHealth In Support of LD 1144, “An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Advance Health Care Directives” Friday, April 30, 2021

Senator Carney, Representative Harnett, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, I am Sarah Calder, Director of Government Affairs at MaineHealth, and I am here today to testify in support of LD 1144, “An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Advance Health Care Directives.”

MaineHealth is Maine’s largest integrated non-profit health care system that provides the full continuum of health care services to the residents of eleven counties in Maine and one in New Hampshire. Our scope of services range from primary and specialty physician services to behavioral health care and community and tertiary hospital care, home health care and a lab.

The pandemic has changed the way we deliver care, and when our COVID-positive patients or patients under investigation are placed in isolation, we attempt to limit the traffic of our care team members in and out of these patient rooms – and take special precautions when removing items from a patient’s room – to prevent further spread of the virus.

MaineHealth strongly supports patient-centered advanced care planning decision making, and we employ health educators who assist individuals with completing advance care directives. The legislation before you today will ensure that patients are able to complete an advance care directive, which can be critical to directing their ongoing care, even in the instances where the patient is isolated for infection prevention purposes and documents cannot be taken into their room for that reason.

We urge the Committee to vote Ought to Pass on LD 1144. Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions.