

MaineHealth

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
Synernet
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

**Sarah Calder, MaineHealth
Testimony in Support of
LD 1771, “Resolve, To Establish the Advisory Panel to Better
Understand and Make Recommendations Regarding the Implications
of Genome-editing Technology for the Citizens of the State”
January 12, 2022**

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Sarah Calder, Director of Government Affairs at MaineHealth, and I am here to testify in support of LD 1771, “Resolve, To Establish the Advisory Panel to Better Understand and Make Recommendations Regarding the Implications of Genome-editing Technology for the Citizens of the State.”

Genome editing technologies have great promise to do good, but also have great risk to be harmful. For example, genome-editing tools have the potential to help treat diseases like cystic fibrosis and diabetes, but many ethical concerns must also be considered.

With that said, MaineHealth believes that is important to convene a diverse panel to thoughtfully study the implications of gene-editing technology, and would welcome the opportunity to serve on that panel, should the Legislature move forward with LD 1771.

Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.