

Testimony in support:
LD 224, "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Health Care Workforce by Preventing Discrimination by
Requiring Maintenance of Certification for Insurance Reimbursement"

February 9, 2023
Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee, my name is Mary Dudzik. I've been a family practice physician for INSERT years and I live in INSERT. I'm here today to testify in support of LD 224.

I think the Maintenance of Certification or MOC process for the American Association of Family Physicians or AAFP is purely a money-making project for the AAFP. I do not mind having a certain number of mandatory CME units per year/cycle and I do not even mind taking an exam to prove competency. But the AAFP has instituted their own CME that is not necessarily anything that I am interested in or that is part of my practice, and it must be specifically from the academy, and I have to pay them for it. The worst is the "quality assurance " or QA project we have to do. It is tedious and redundant; it takes a lot of time, and we already get QA'ed to death by our hospitals as well as insurance companies. There is no reason to pay the AAFP to duplicate what we are already doing. It is so expensive that it takes up most of our CME budget, leaving nothing for us to learn new skills and gain knowledge that would be helpful to our patient population. It takes away from education that would truly help our patients.

The MOC process is just another mandatory hoop we have to jump through that adds to burnout and does not help us or our patients, it is just busy work. There is already too much busy work in our profession. It is part of the problem that leads to burn out. I know physicians who left medicine early just because they were so fed up with the MOC process. Tying reimbursement to busy work is insulting to all of us.

Please protect physicians from this superfluous discrimination by insurance companies and vote "ought to pass" on LD 224.

Thank you.