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Karen Saylor, MD, President | Jeffrey S. Barkin, MD, President-Elect | Erik N. Steele, DO, FAAFP, Chair, Board of Directors  
Andrew B. MacLean, JD, CEO | Dan Morin, Director of Communications & Government Affairs

TO: The Honorable Heather Sanborn, Chair  
The Honorable Denise Tepler, Chair  
Members, Joint Standing Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

FM: Dan Morin, Director of Communications and Government Affairs

DATE: February 9, 2021

RE: **Neither for Nor Against**  
LD 60— An Act To Clarify the Minimum Amount of Emergency Refills of Insulin

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The Maine Medical Association is the state's largest professional physician organization representing more than 4300 physicians, residents, and medical students in Maine whose mission is to support Maine physicians, advance the quality of medicine in Maine and promote the health of all Maine residents.

The bill s bill requires that pharmacists dispensing emergency refills of insulin and associated insulin-related supplies do so in a quantity that is at least a 30-day supply.

While the Maine Medical Association is neither for nor against the well-intentioned bill, we recommend an amendment to limit emergency dispensation under the bill to once a year.

So much about maintaining good health is about early detection and management of ailments. It is critical to appropriately manage chronic diseases like diabetes, so health does not suffer significantly later. The number office visits have dramatically dropped during the pandemic. Now more than ever we should be encouraging regular appointments for necessary and routine care. Maine Medical Association members want to do our work to keep you healthy. That work gets harder if physicians do not see their patients.

The MMA also stresses the importance for updated patient records. We recommend specificity

as to when pharmacists should be required to report any emergency prescriptions to the patient's primary medical practice.

Thank you for your acceptance and review of our comments. We will be available to work on any potential amendments before the work session and intend to be in virtual attendance for the discussion.