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MHPA Testifies Before Maine's Health and Human Services Committee in Support of LD 1878, HP 1249

(Washington, DC) – Today, MHPA Director of State Affairs Stephanie Myers testified at a hearing before the Maine Health and Human Services Committee in support of legislation to establish Medicaid managed care in the Pine Tree State.

"At its core, Medicaid managed care exemplifies the public-private partnership that, through competition inherent to the bidding process – drives innovation and works to ensure that the state and federal dollars invested in Maine's Medicaid program are used as effectively and efficiently as possible," said Myers. "Medicaid MCOs are partners in the delivery of care and services whether working with their partner states, the federal government, providers, community organizations, or Medicaid beneficiaries."

State Rep. Holly Stover (D–Boothbay) sponsored LD 1878, HP 1249: An Act to Establish a Managed Care Program for MaineCare Services which was also cosponsored by State Sens. Harold L. Stewart III (R–Aroostook), Marianne Moore (R–Washington), and Cameron D. Reny, (D–Lincoln) as well as State Reps. Lori K. Gramlich (D–Old Orchard Beach), Kathy Irene Javner (R–Chester), John E. Ducharme III (R–Madison), Daniel Joseph Shagoury (D– Hallowell), Anne P. Graham (D–North Yarmouth) and Michael F. Brennan (D–Portland).

"In addition to being accountable both financially and qualitatively, MCOs strive to provide innovative solutions that improve the lives of their enrollees," continued Myers. "Medicaid MCOs are uniquely positioned to provide holistic care to Mainers through their care management and care coordination operations. Support provided by a care coordination team and consistent care management can help a child and family navigate multiple health care systems and providers to ensure access to timely and appropriate care."

Concluding today's hearing, the Committee will schedule a work session in the next few weeks to markup and address the legislation.

Access the full testimony here.

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About MHPA

Founded in 1995, Medicaid Health Plans of America (MHPA) is the only national association that solely represents the interests of the Medicaid managed care industry. Through its advocacy and research work, MHPA supports innovative policy solutions that enhance the delivery of comprehensive, cost-effective, and quality health care for Medicaid enrollees. MHPA works on behalf of its more than 160-member health plans which serve over 51 million Medicaid enrollees in 40 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. MHPA's members include for-profit and non-profit national, regional, and single-state health plans that compete in the Medicaid market. Visit *mhpa.org* for more information.