

# Consumers for Affordable Health Care

Maine Prescription  
Drug Affordability  
Board Meeting

Presented by:

Ann Woloson, Executive Director

December 22, 2020



# What is CAHC?

Since 1988, the mission of Consumers for Affordable Health Care (CAHC) has been to advocate the right to quality, affordable, health care for every person in Maine

We are a non-profit organization located in Augusta with a statewide reach

Designated by Maine's Attorney General and Bureau of Insurance as Maine's Health Insurance Consumer Assistance Program



# Consumers for Affordable Health Care

## Maine's Health Insurance Consumer Assistance Program

### Confidential Services for Consumers

- ⊕ Toll-free, confidential, statewide HelpLine **1-800-965-7476**
- ⊕ Health Care Coverage Eligibility screening
- ⊕ Marketplace (HealthCare.gov) & MaineCare (CoverMe.gov) enrollment assistance
- ⊕ Private insurance appeals assistance
- ⊕ Connecting Mainers to safety net programs (Hospital Free Care, Medication Assistance Programs, Clinic Services)

**ACA Marketplace Open Enrollment ends 12/15/20 for 2021 coverage  
Missed Open Enrollment?**

**-Special enrollment period: life change such as losing employer-based coverage, getting married, etc.**



Summary Report of Findings From the  
*Critical Insights on Maine™* Survey for  
**Maine Consumers for Affordable Health Care**

October 2020

 **CRITICAL  
INSIGHTS**  
Market Research, Public Opinion Polling  
A Division of DRI



# Background & Methodology

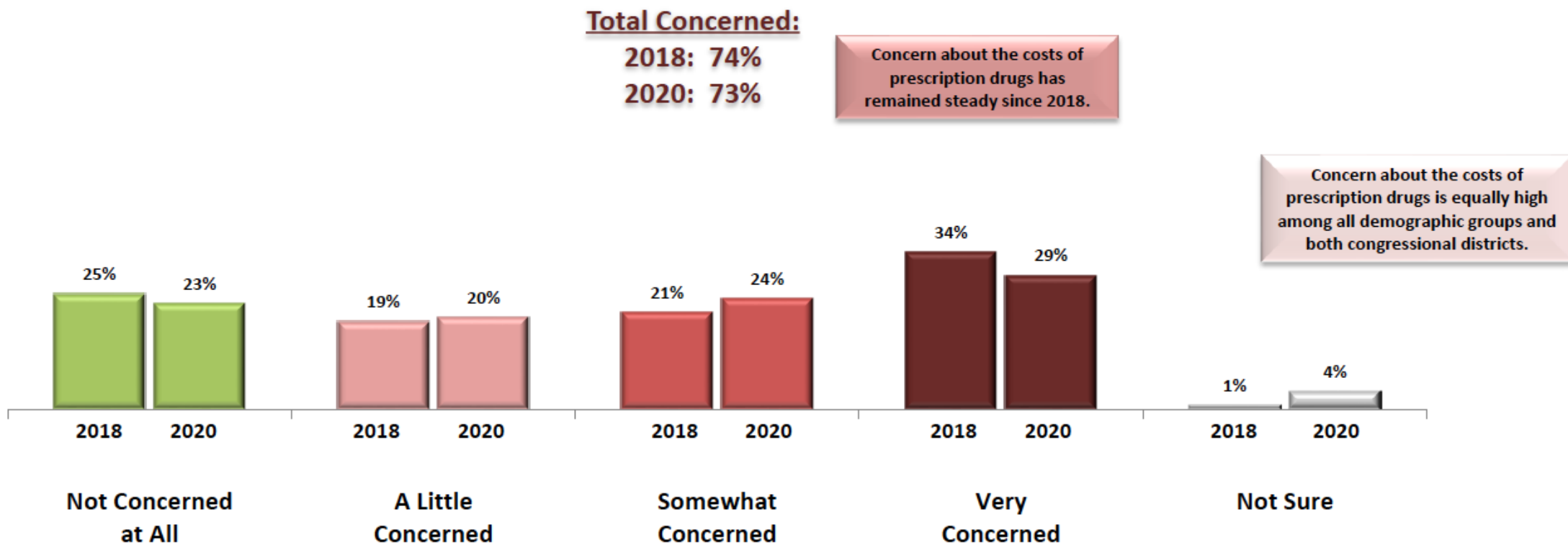
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- Each spring and fall, Critical Insights, a division of Digital Research, Inc. conducts the *Critical Insights on Maine™* tracking survey, a comprehensive, statewide public opinion survey of registered voters that covers a variety of topics of interest to businesses, government, and the general public.
  - *Critical Insights on Maine™* has been documenting the attitudes, perceptions, and preferences of Maine's residents for more than 20 years, making it the longest-running consistently-administered tracking survey in the Northeast.
    - In addition to general-interest items (the results of which are released to the media as a public service), the survey also includes a number of proprietary items for sponsoring entities, with results of those items released only to those sponsors.
  - **This document presents the results of questions included in the fall 2020 wave of the survey on behalf of Consumers for Affordable Health Care.**
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- This wave of the survey included a total of 600 respondents across the state who were surveyed by phone (300 respondents) or online (300 respondents) in September and October of 2020.
    - With a total sample of 600 respondents, results presented here have a margin of sampling error of +/- 3.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.
    - All survey respondents were registered voters who live in Maine; final data were statistically weighted to reflect the demographics of the state's population.
    - On average, the entire survey was 20 minutes in administrative length – including both general-interest items and all proprietary subscriber items.



Three out of four surveyed voters in Maine are concerned about the costs of prescription drugs, with half describing themselves as *very* or *somewhat* concerned.

### Concern About the Costs of Prescription Drugs



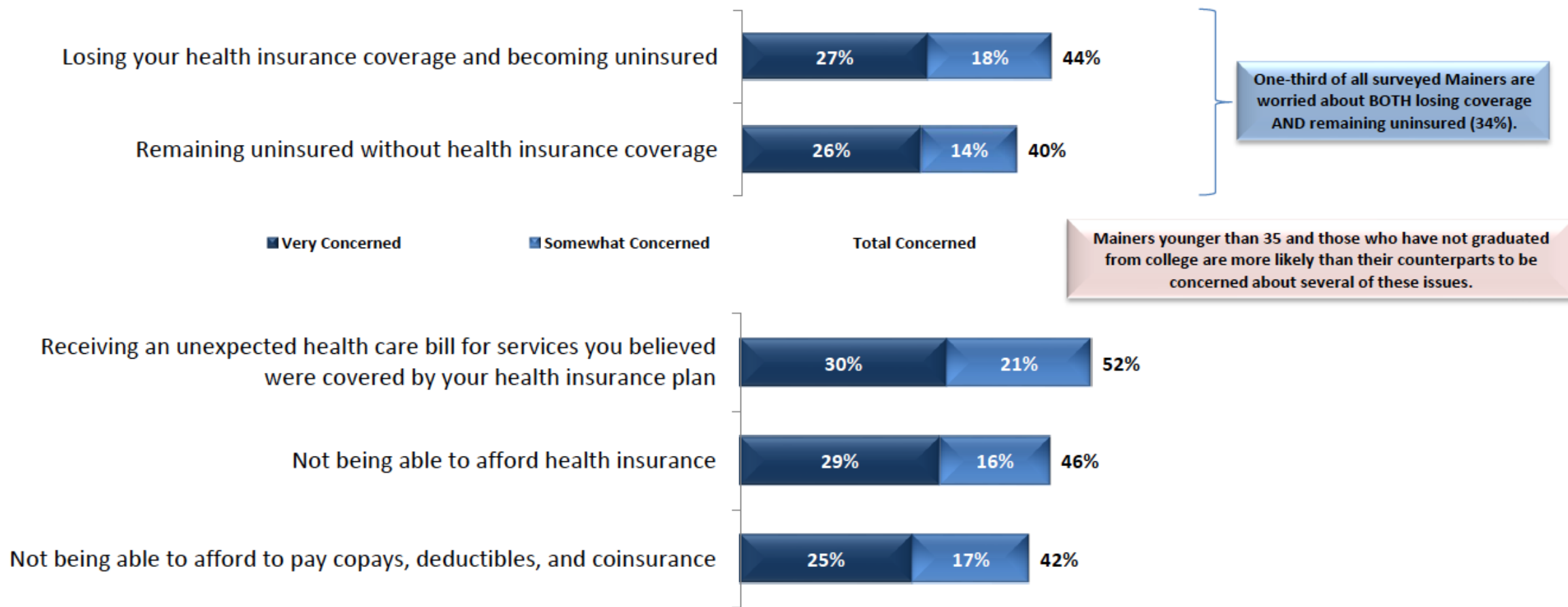
(n=600)

How concerned are you about the cost of prescription drugs for yourself and your family?

At least four out of ten voters in Maine are worried about losing health insurance coverage or remaining uninsured.

Just as many are concerned about the affordability of health insurance.

### Concerns About the Cost of Health Insurance



(n=600)

# New data shows Mainers spent over \$165 million more on the 25 drugs with highest year-over-year increase in cost last year.

Top 25 Drugs with Highest Year-Over-Year Increases in the State (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020)

Brand or Generic		Payer Type						
Brand or Generic		Overall						
Rank	NDC	Drug Name	Drug Class(es)	Number of Prescriptions	Number of Prescription Users	Cost	Increase	Cost Per Prescription
<b>Top 25 Overall</b>				<b>326,973</b>	<b>55,199</b>	<b>\$417,906,584</b>	<b>\$165,542,456</b>	
1	00074055402	Humira Pen	Disease-modifying Antirheumatic..	11,069	1,755	\$75,014,465	\$49,798,997	\$6,777
2	00003089421	Eliquis	Antithrombotic Agents	70,566	16,058	\$55,740,266	\$16,582,604	\$790
3	57894006103	Stelara	Disease-modifying Antirheumatic..	1,951	485	\$44,996,332	\$14,778,703	\$23,063
4	00002143480	Trulicity	Antidiabetic Agents	17,391	3,504	\$21,537,424	\$6,755,594	\$1,238
5	61958250101	Biktary	Antivirals	3,651	488	\$13,007,574	\$6,704,983	\$3,563
6	00173088710	Trelegy Ellipta	Anticholinergic Agents; Sympath..	13,370	2,994	\$11,249,674	\$5,740,649	\$841
7	00024591401	Dupixent	Skin and Mucous Membrane Ag..	2,749	431	\$9,638,927	\$5,384,493	\$3,506
8	00074024302	Humira	Disease-modifying Antirheumatic..	1,050	192	\$7,735,897	\$5,232,429	\$7,368
9	59676060012	Erleada	Antineoplastic Agents	504	80	\$6,857,076	\$4,310,974	\$13,605
10	57962042028	Imbruvica	Not Available	1,226	147	\$18,108,780	\$4,222,559	\$14,771
11	00597015230	Jardiance	Antidiabetic Agents	8,815	2,818	\$7,780,699	\$3,927,529	\$883
12	00469012599	Xtandi	Antineoplastic Agents	995	168	\$12,648,291	\$3,836,124	\$12,712
13	00597014560	Ofev	Antifibrotic Agents	514	74	\$5,789,003	\$3,675,829	\$11,263
14	59572041521	Revlimid	Antineoplastic Agents; Immunom..	534	95	\$8,619,334	\$3,594,234	\$16,141
15	00078063941	Cosentyx Sensore..	Skin and Mucous Membrane Ag..	1,911	346	\$13,240,331	\$3,373,523	\$6,928
16	00002143380	Trulicity	Antidiabetic Agents	11,572	3,110	\$12,703,928	\$3,323,823	\$1,098
17	00069050130	Xeljanz Xr	Disease-modifying Antirheumatic..	1,723	293	\$9,333,744	\$3,163,567	\$5,417
18	12496120803	Suboxone	Analgesics and Antipyretics; Anti..	122,356	7,981	\$22,838,512	\$3,089,061	\$187
19	50458057990	Xarelto	Antithrombotic Agents	13,267	3,462	\$11,518,185	\$2,955,477	\$868
20	00003089321	Eliquis	Antithrombotic Agents	17,025	3,699	\$11,317,281	\$2,599,058	\$665
21	00074057622	Venclexta	Antineoplastic Agents	418	86	\$5,155,456	\$2,578,188	\$12,334
22	00002144511	Taltz	Skin and Mucous Membrane Ag..	697	124	\$5,077,203	\$2,534,047	\$7,284
23	00169413212	Ozempic	Antidiabetic Agents	2,965	880	\$3,845,107	\$2,481,051	\$1,297
24	00597015330	Jardiance	Antidiabetic Agents	6,648	1,851	\$6,533,821	\$2,452,292	\$983
25	00169633910	Novolog Flexpen	Antidiabetic Agents	14,006	4,078	\$17,619,271	\$2,446,668	\$1,258

Maine Health Data Organization 2020, All-Payer Claims Data



# Maine Office of Employee Health and Benefits:

## Bi-weekly Premium Rates

Level 2: Base Annual Salary is Between \$30,000 - \$80,000				
	With the Health Credit		Without the Health Credit	
Level of Coverage	Employee Deduction	State Contribution	Employee Deduction	State Contribution
Employee Only	\$23.55	\$447.44	\$47.10	\$423.89
Employee & Spouse/Domestic Partner	\$221.65	\$763.45	\$246.27	\$738.83
Employee, Spouse/Domestic Partner & Child(ren)	\$296.47	\$875.67	\$321.09	\$851.05
Employee & Child(ren)	\$137.54	\$637.28	\$162.16	\$612.66
Family Contract (both employee, spouse/domestic partner work for the State and share children)	\$24.63	\$561.44	\$49.25	\$536.82

9/3/2020 [Maine university retirees worry cost-cutting shift could jeopardize health care](#)

*A change to how the University of Maine System provides health care for nearly 2,900 retirees and their dependents has raised alarm that the **cost-saving measure could negatively affect their care during the coronavirus pandemic.***

*The university system is promoting the change as a way to save money while providing retirees with more options and cheaper care by allowing them to be part of a bigger risk pool.*

*... the university system **could not guarantee retirees would get the same level of care or be able to afford marketplace plans.***

11/11/2020 [She could pay \\$800 monthly for life-saving drugs under new plan for Maine university retirees](#)

*... found that the plans most beneficial to her are much more costly. **Her premium would jump from \$41 a month to \$188, and her co-pay for Revlimid would jump to \$3,500 in the first month and \$800 a month after until she reaches a \$6,550 deductible for catastrophic coverage for prescription drugs.***

## Medical Trend Assumptions

This development of the 2021 rates reflects an annual trend rate of 6.7% for Year 1 and 7.1% for Year 2. The Year 1 trend is consistent with the trend used in the 2020 pricing. The trend factor reflects CHO's expectations regarding changes in projected in-network and out-of-network costs and utilization. The prescription drug trends reflect expected changes in utilization, the expiration of drug patents and introduction of new drugs. Table 1 illustrates the projected Year 2 trend by category. The factors only reflect trend applicable to the single risk pool; they have been normalized and/or adjusted when appropriate to account for other changes such as changes in age, benefit changes, seasonality patterns, and non-recurring events. The trend rates are exclusive of the provider contracting adjustments.

<b>Table 1 Community Health Options Unit Cost and Utilization Trend Assumptions</b>			
<b>Service Type</b>	<b>Inflation</b>	<b>Utilization</b>	<b>Total</b>
Hospital Inpatient	4.8%	1.1%	5.9%
Hospital Outpatient	6.6%	1.0%	7.6%
Professional	4.1%	1.6%	5.8%
Other Medical	5.2%	0.6%	5.8%
Prescription Drug	10.6%	1.0%	11.7%

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR SAVINGS IN HEALTH CARE

**2018**

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*A Roadmap to Reduce Massachusetts  
Health Care Spending by \$4.8 Billion in Five Years*



**SCENARIO #6:**

## LIMIT GROWTH IN PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

**Policy Issue:** Prescription drug spending represented the fastest growing category of care in 2015 and 2016 in Massachusetts, with 7.2% and 6.1% growth net of rebates in each year, respectively. Growth in prescription drug spending alone accounted for roughly one-third of Massachusetts per capita spending growth in 2014 and 2015. Much of this spending growth is driven by large price increases for brand-name drugs such as Mylan's EpiPen which increased from \$244 in 2012 to \$362 per pack in 2014 in Massachusetts.<sup>1</sup> Nationally, prices for the most commonly used brand-name drugs increased 164% between 2008 and 2015.<sup>2</sup>

In the 2017 Cost Trends Report, the HPC recommended cost containment strategies such as enhancing transparency of drug prices and using value-based benchmarks. Here, the HPC estimates potential five-year savings that could be achieved if the Commonwealth succeeds in curbing growth in prescription drug prices in accordance with overall cost growth targets.

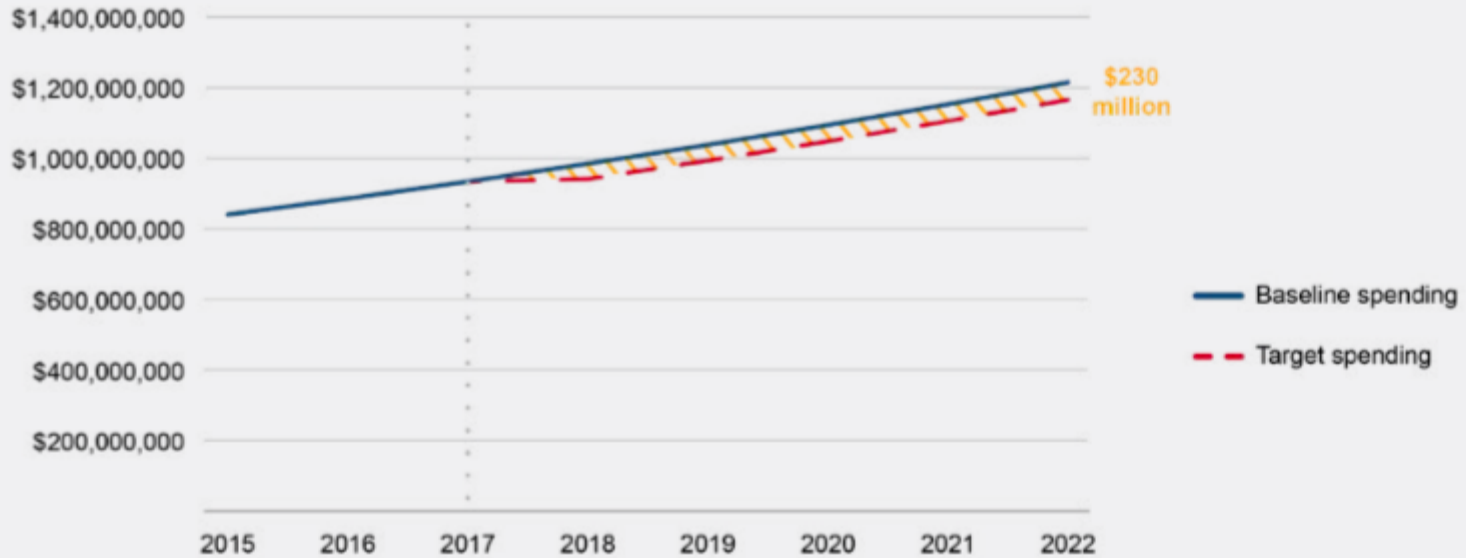
**Reduction Target:** Limit growth of prescription drug prices to 1.55%.

**Five-Year Savings Estimate (2018-2022):** If Massachusetts restrains prescription drug price growth, it would result in potential five-year savings of **\$230.5 million**.

**\$230.5 M**

NET SAVINGS

### SAVINGS FROM LIMITING GROWTH IN PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES TO 1.55%



	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	TOTAL
<b>Net savings</b>	\$43,366,003	\$44,517,093	\$46,037,453	\$47,357,490	\$49,233,591	\$230,511,630

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L.D. 2110

Date:

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**HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

**STATE OF MAINE**

**SENATE**

**129TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 755, L.D. 2110, Bill, “An Act To Lower Health Care Costs”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 3 MRSA c. 39** is enacted to read:

**CHAPTER 39**

**OFFICE OF AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE**

**3. Duties.** The office's duties must be performed independently and in a nonpartisan manner but under the general policy direction of the legislative oversight committee and the advisory council....

14 B. Analyze health care spending trends by consumer categories payer type, provider ...

**33 F. Provide staffing assistance to the Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board established in Title 5, chapter 167, at the request of the board and with the approval of the Legislative Council.**





# Consumers for Affordable Health Care

[www.MaineCAHC.org](http://www.MaineCAHC.org)

1-800-965-7476 HelpLine