

2025 Annual Report of the Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board

The Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board (MPDAB) was established in 2019 pursuant to [MRS Title 5 Chapter 167-1](#).

Mission: To determine annual spending targets for prescription drugs purchased by Maine public payers and make recommendations to achieve the targets.

Vision: Board recommendations will target strategies to achieve prescription drug affordability while maintaining safety and ensuring clinically appropriate use. The spending targets will be based upon a 10-year rolling average of the medical care services component plus a reasonable percentage for inflation and minus a spending target determined by the board for pharmacy savings. In addition, spending targets will be determined on specific prescription drugs that may cause affordability challenges to enrollees.

MPDAB 2025 Membership:

Board Member	Title/Occupation	Nominated By
Kelsie Snow, PharmD, MPH (Chair)	Pharmacy Manager BRHC Coastal Pharmacy Bucksport Regional Health Center	Governor of Maine
Noah Nesin, MD (alternate)	Medical Director for Research & Innovation Community Care Partnership of Maine	Governor of Maine
Peter Hayes	Former President/CEO Healthcare Purchaser Alliance of ME	President of the Senate
Sharon Treat	Health Policy Consultant	President of the Senate
Jennifer Reck (alternate)	Senior Policy Fellow National Academy for State Health Policy	President of the Senate
Susan Wehry, MD	Geriatrics, School of Public and Planetary Health University of New England	Speaker of the House
Julia Redding, DO	Family & Geriatric Medicine Maine Medical Partners	Speaker of the House
Rhonda Selvin, FNP (alternate)	Family Medicine Groups Recover Together	Speaker of the House

Advisory Council Members:

Bethany Beausang, Governor's Office;
Dan Mickool, Office of MaineCare Services;
Kristy Gould, Maine Municipal Employee Health Trust;

Jennifer Kent, Maine Education Association Benefits Trust;
Kate Ende, Consumers for Affordable Health Care;
Jonathan French, Maine Service Employees Association;
Ryan Low, University of Maine System;
Christina Moylan, Assistant Attorney General;
Shonna Poulin-Gutierrez, Executive Director Maine Employee Health and Wellness;
Tony Cantillo, Department of Corrections;
*There are two vacancies on the Advisory Council that are expected to be filled in 2026.

SECTIONS

- I. 2025 Overview
- II. Collaborating with Prescription Drug Affordability Boards in other states
- III. Legislative and community engagement
- IV. The future of MPDAB

I. 2025 Overview

The MPDAB met six times in 2025 and held all meetings in a hybrid format after adopting a policy regarding virtual attendance in 2023. Topics covered by presentations and discussions during these meetings included:

- Supporting [LD 697](#), legislation to broaden the Board’s charge and authority
- Ongoing discussions of the 340B program in Maine and in other states, including with presentations about legislation in the 132nd Session
- An overview of Maine’s prescription drug data from The Maine Health Data Organization
- Results from an MPDAB survey of public payors to collect more information about prescription drug spending
 - Findings from this survey included information on historical spending on prescription drugs for the last five years, identified drivers of spending, strategies to contain costs, and affordability barriers for members
- Ongoing discussion of the work of PDABs in other states
- Discussion of the role of PBMs in the prescription drug supply chain and pricing issues
- Discussion of GLP-1s and learnings from others states on cost and coverage
- Ongoing discussion of the Board’s scope, authority, and mission, particularly in light of potential changes to the Board’s charge in LD 697

- Presentation on the Maine Health Data Organization’s 5th Annual [Prescription Drug Transparency Report](#)

II. Collaborating with Prescription Drug Affordability Boards in Other States

The MPDAB continued to participate in monthly meetings of a multi-state Prescription Drug Affordability Board work group, convened by the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP). MPDAB member Sharon Treat, OAHC Executive Director Meg Garratt-Reed, and OAHC Policy Analyst Ceilidh Shea have attended on behalf of the MPDAB.

III. Legislative and Community Engagement

In the First Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature, the MPDAB worked in collaboration with Senator Cameron Reny to introduce LD 697. The legislation would broaden the MPDAB statute and require the Board to study and make detailed recommendations to the legislature on strategies to lower prescription drug costs. The legislation also allocates resources for one additional staff member within the Office of Affordable Health Care who would be responsible for providing strategic direction, government and stakeholder relations, research, writing and administrative work for the MPDAB. Please see the following section for an update on where LD 697 stands.

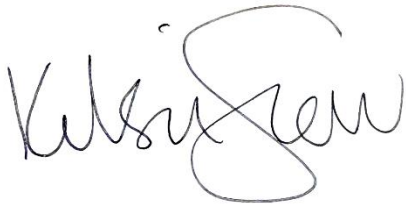
Outside of the legislature, Board member Sharon Treat participated in Consumers for Affordable Health Care’s Health Care for Maine Conference as a panelist for the Tackling Rising Health Care Costs workshop.

IV. The Future of the MPDAB

The Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board is committed to collaborating and working closely with the Office of Affordable Health Care and the legislature in the interests of the people of the State of Maine. The Board’s original charge was to “to determine annual spending targets for prescription drugs purchased by Maine public payers based upon a 10 year rolling average of the medical care services component of the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index medical care services index plus a reasonable percentage for inflation and minus a spending target determined by the Board for pharmacy savings” (see [2022 Annual Report](#)) and to make other recommendations to the legislature. While the Board remains committed to the work of developing and re-evaluating spending targets, the Board has focused recent efforts on LD 697 and the potential for future changes to scope of work. This work builds on legislative efforts that took place in the 131st session, in the form of LD 1829, a bill that would have resulted in similar outcomes to LD 697.

LD 697 passed in both the House and Senate and is awaiting action by the Governor. It will become law unless the Governor vetoes it within three days after the reconvening of the legislature, in this case the convening of the 132nd Second Regular Session, which is expected to begin on January 7th, 2026. The Board looks forward to the clarity that will come from learning more about the outcome of LD 697 in early 2026. In the meantime, the Board has been involved in discussions about next steps should the bill become law and how best to prepare for the in-depth work that will follow.

A [2025 survey](#) found that half of Maine families report having a higher-than-expected copayment for a prescription drug. One out of three say they postponed filling or refilling a prescription, split pills in half, skipped doses of medicine or did not fill a prescription due to costs. The burden of paying for increasingly costly prescription drugs for Maine people must be addressed, and Board members are enthusiastic about taking on more responsibility to do just that. To be successful, the MPDAB must be sufficiently staffed and funded to carefully analyze policies with the potential to rein in those costs. It is our hope that LD 697 will grant the Board authority to do so.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelsie Snow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kelsie" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Snow".

Kelsie Snow, PharmD MPH

Chair, Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board