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Office of the International President

June 27, 2025

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Senator Collins:

On behalf of the 600,000 active and retired members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM Union), **I write today to urge you to reject the proposed cuts to Medicaid in the reconciliation package (H.R. 1) that threatens access to healthcare and could shutter some of the rural hospitals in your state.**

The negative impacts of this legislation are very concerning to the IAM, which represents thousands of shipbuilders at General Dynamics Bath Iron Works.

The IAM prides itself on negotiating good collective bargaining agreements that provide our hard-working members with benefits like great healthcare coverage. These healthcare benefits, however, are threatened by the lack of access to healthcare as hospitals could be forced to close, slash services or lay off workers because of reduced Medicaid funds in the reconciliation package.

The cuts will strain the state's health care infrastructure, especially in rural areas where clinics, nursing facilities, and hospitals rely heavily on MaineCare funding to remain operational, according to the state's Department of Health and Human Services.

In Maine alone, four rural hospitals are at risk of closing because of proposed legislation, according to published reports.

The reconciliation package proposes new work requirements for Medicaid recipients and slashes federal funding. It's projected that 34,695 people in Maine will lose Medicaid coverage.

These financial losses will strain state budgets as they attempt to bridge the gap.

Again – I urge you to protect access to healthcare and reject the proposed Medicaid cuts in the reconciliation package.

Sincerely,

Brian Bryant
IAM International President