



MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT: Sara Gagné-Holmes
(207) 626-7058, Ext. 201
Cell: (207) 446-7301
sgh@mejp.org

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

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Cover Maine Now! to Deliver Petitions to Maine Legislature

AUGUSTA – The Cover Maine Now! Coalition will hold a press conference on Monday, May 20, and deliver thousands of signatures from Mainers who have signed a petition asking the Legislature to accept federal funding to expand access to health care to 69,500 people in the state.

“Thousands of Mainers have signed the petition urging lawmakers to expand access to health care,” said Sara Gagné-Holmes, executive director of Maine Equal Justice Partners, one of the lead organizations in the Cover Maine Now! Coalition. “We’re delivering these petitions to remind the Legislature of the overwhelming public support for accepting federal funds and the importance of ensuring that thousands of our family, friends and neighbors have access to health care.”

What: Press conference and delivery of petitions

When: 10 a.m., Monday, May 20

Where: Welcome Center, State House and then legislative offices

Who: The Cover Maine Now Coalition!, including representatives from the medical community and law enforcement

Why: To urge the Legislature to accept federal funding to expand access to health care

A new statewide poll released earlier this week shows that Maine voters overwhelmingly support accepting federal dollars to expand access to health care for nearly 69,500 Mainers who are currently uninsured.

The poll, which was conducted May 1-7 by Critical Insights, found that 67 percent of respondents support accepting federal funds to expand health care, while 23 percent don’t. The results are similar to a March

31-April 3 poll conducted by the [Maine People's Resource Center](#) that found 68.1 percent of respondents support accepting federal dollars to expand health care.

The Cover Maine Now! Coalition, which includes more than 85 organizations, was formed to support accepting federal funds to expand access to quality, affordable health care.

For a full list of Cover Maine Now! Coalition members, visit: <http://www.covermainenow.com>

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