



PRESS RELEASE

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Coalition Urges Lawmakers to Remember the People *Legislature Can Improve the Lives of Thousands of Working Mainers with Health Care Expansion*

AUGUSTA – The Cover Maine Now! Coalition, which supports the expansion of access to health care, released the following statement today in response to Gov. Paul LePage’s veto of legislation that would provide health insurance to nearly 70,000 Mainers.

“We’re asking members of the Legislature to stand up for nearly 70,000 Mainers, our neighbors, friends and family members. Republicans, Democrats and Independents have worked together on a compromise that will save lives in our state. Hopefully politics won’t stand in the way,” said Sara Gagné-Holmes, executive director of Maine Equal Justice Partners and a leader of the Cover Maine Now! Coalition. “In recent days, the debate has focused on the politics of expanding access to health care. As the Legislature has a final opportunity to vote, I hope they will focus on the people this legislation will help. They have a chance to make a real difference in the lives of thousands of hardworking Mainers by providing access to life-saving care when they need it.”

The Cover Maine Now! Coalition is calling for a Week of Action. The Week of Action will begin at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19, with supporters gathering at the State House to show their support for accepting federal funding to expand access to health care followed by additional daily activities until Tuesday, June 25.

The Cover Maine Now! Coalition, which includes more than 85 organizations, was formed to support accepting federal funds that have already been set aside to provide health care coverage to more Maine people.

For a full list of coalition members, visit: <http://www.covermainenow.com>

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