

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Patients, Advocates and Electeds Condemn Disastrous Decision in *Texas v. United States*, Urge Supreme Court to Take Up Case Immediately**

### ***Access to health care for Mainers with Pre-Existing Conditions hangs in the balance after Circuit Court ruling to undermine Affordable Care Act***

**(Augusta, Maine)** - Today, patients, advocates and electeds from across Maine denounced the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals' [decision](#) in the Trump administration and Republicans in *Texas vs. United States*, a partisan lawsuit to dismantle the Affordable Care Act. The decision is a devastating blow to Mainers, particularly the hundreds of thousands with pre-existing conditions, who could lose their access to quality, affordable health insurance. Speakers thanked Rep. Jared Golden for his work to protect Mainers, and called on Sen. Susan Collins to stand up for her constituents' health care.

"When a person with a preexisting condition attempts to access health care, they need to know they'll be covered by insurance, and they need to know they won't face discrimination. They need to know that they won't be charged more because of that condition, they need critical care like preventive medicine, prescription drug coverage, and maternity care, and they literally cannot survive with annual and lifetime caps on coverage," said Whitney Parrish of the Health Equity Alliance.

"Could you imagine if I'd even be here to help with this very important cause if we didn't have to cover folks who have preexisting conditions?" said State Representative Donna Doore, speaking as a three-time cancer patient.

"We extend continued gratitude to Representative Jared Golden for signing on to a House resolution condemning the administration's support of the lawsuit. Meanwhile, Sen. Susan Collins failed to sign on to a Senate resolution that would reverse the administration's support of the lawsuit. Today, we call on Sen. Collins yet again to stand up for her constituents, and urge the Supreme Court to take action on the case immediately," said Vivian Mikhail, Protect Our Care Maine state director.

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