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Date: (Filing No. H-)

JUDICIARY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 757, L.D. 1197, “An Act to Prevent Coerced Abortion”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Fully Inform Pregnant Persons of Their Rights'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4567 is enacted to read:

§4567. Rights of pregnant persons

1. Commission to produce poster or notice. The commission shall produce posters or notices in electronic or printed form:

A. Outlining this Act's protections against discrimination on the basis of pregnancy and familial status in employment, housing, access to public accommodations, fair credit extension and educational opportunity;

B. Explaining that Title 17-A, section 209 prohibits criminal threatening of any person, including a person who refuses to or chooses not to have an abortion;

C. Providing contact information for providers of resources to survivors of domestic violence, including the telephone number of at least one domestic violence hotline and at least one sexual assault hotline;

D. Informing a health care professional's patient that the patient may request that the health care professional refer the patient to law enforcement agencies and domestic violence and sexual assault survivor support organizations, including by calling law enforcement if the patient believes that the patient's safety will be at risk if the patient refuses to or chooses not to have an abortion; and

E. Informing a patient seeking an abortion that the patient has a right to withhold or withdraw the patient's consent for the abortion and receive a refund of any payments made for the abortion at any time before the abortion is performed and that, pursuant

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 to Title 22, section 1907, the patient's decision not to have an abortion does not affect
2 the patient's right to receive public assistance or public health services or to access any
3 other public benefit.

4 **2. Commission to furnish poster or notice.** The commission shall make the posters
5 or notices prepared under subsection 1 available, upon request, to health care professionals
6 that provide abortions and to health care facilities where abortions are performed.

7 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1597-A, sub-§3, ¶C** is enacted to read:

8 C. A health care professional shall refund any payments received for the performance
9 of the abortion if the minor withdraws consent to the abortion at any time prior to the
10 abortion being performed.

11 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §1599-A, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

12 **3. Refund if consent withdrawn.** A health care professional, as defined in section
13 1596, subsection 1, paragraph C, shall refund any payments received for the performance
14 of an abortion if the pregnant patient withdraws consent to the abortion at any time prior to
15 the performance of the abortion.

16 **Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §1599-A, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

17 **4. Health care professional to post notice of pregnant person's rights.** A health
18 care professional, as defined in section 1596, subsection 1, paragraph C, who performs
19 abortions shall post and keep posted, in a place where it may be viewed by all patients of
20 the health care professional who may seek an abortion, a copy of the poster or notice
21 prepared by the Maine Human Rights Commission under Title 5, section 4567.

22 **Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
23 allocations are made.

24 **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, MAINE**

25 **Human Rights Commission - Regulation 0150**

26 Initiative: Provides one-time funding to produce and make available notices regarding
27 certain legal protections and rights of pregnant persons.

28 GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
29 All Other	\$10,000	\$0
30		
31 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$10,000	\$0

32
33 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
34 number to read consecutively.

35 **SUMMARY**

36 This amendment, which is a minority report of the committee, replaces the bill and
37 changes the title. The amendment requires the Maine Human Rights Commission to
38 produce posters or notices providing information to and outlining certain rights of a
39 pregnant person. The amendment requires a health care professional to post the copy of a
40 poster or notice prepared by the Maine Human Rights Commission in a place where it may

1 be viewed by all of the health care professional's patients who may seek an abortion. It
2 also requires a health care professional to refund any payments received for the
3 performance of an abortion if a pregnant patient withdraws consent to the abortion at any
4 time prior to the performance of the abortion.

5 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

6 **(See attached)**