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LISBON FALLS  
LD 51

I would like to express my **STRONG** support for this bill for the following reasons:

**Bodily autonomy** - While I do not support abortion in any way and would not personally have one, I believe that a woman should have control over medical decisions that affect her body. Similarly, every human being should have the right to decide if and which vaccinations they will inject into their body. Anything else is a double standard.

**Corruption** - Mandating vaccines opens the door for big pharma and other bad actors to buy out politicians in order to get new (and possibly unnecessary) vaccines added to the schedule. The COVID-19 vaccine is a perfect example of this. How does a mostly untested vaccine that seems to be causing serious heart issues in young people suddenly get added to the federal CDC's school vaccination schedule before further testing?

**Medical Necessity** - Some members of my family have the MTHFR gene mutation. This mutation makes it difficult to detoxify many of the metals and toxins that are still present in modern vaccines. My sister and her husband left the state and moved to South Carolina solely due to it being so difficult to get a medical exemption for her 5 and 7 year-old children who likely also have the mutation. My other sister has decided to homeschool her 7 year-old, and luckily they can swing it financially, but most people in Maine cannot afford to have a parent at home. Doctors are scared they will lose their licenses and are not giving medical exemptions. Do we want to lose our workforce and youth to other states?

What is the answer to the threat of reduced herd immunity? States should put some effort into better educating their populations on the efficacy and safety of vaccines without mandates. If done with honesty and transparency, most people will willingly choose to vaccinate. Integrity is a Maine value. Let's do right by ALL Maine people and reintroduce religious and philosophical exemptions for vaccines in this state.

Thank you.