Anthony Shostak Greene LD 51

I am writing to urge you to support LD 51. The removal of religious and philosophical objections from vaccine requirements is wholly un-American and blatantly un-Constitutional. With the COVID-19 vaccine mandates, we saw an egregious misuse of the power of government. Friends and neighbors lost their healthcare jobs because they refused to compromise their principles to appease the Governor and her appointees. Nobody should ever be required to submit to a medical treatment or procedure they do not agree with for any reason. Nobody should ever have their right to an education contingent upon submitting to such treatment or procedure, and the same holds true for someone's right to work.

One may have any of a host of reasons to wish to abstain from any particular vaccine. Perhaps it is because it could have been developed from fetal cells. Or, it might be that one feels that the technology is too risky. In my case, my wife had her hearing damaged by a vaccine—something that we learned is all too common. Regardless of the reason, the decision is the individual's not government's.

Given that the government has so recently so often issued complete untruths about the safety and efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccine, the public has every reason to not trust public health officials, their recommendations, and any mandates based on them.

Please use your vote to support LD 51.

Sincerely,

Anthony Shostak 18 Anson Road Greene, ME 04236