

April 30, 2023

Dear Honorable Members of the Maine Legislature,

I wish to voice my opinion and concerns regarding:

LD 1343 An Act to Protect the Reproductive Freedom of Maine People by Preempting the Field of Abortion Regulation

The standing doctrine based on the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution that holds that certain matters are of such a national, as opposed to local, character that federal laws preempt or take precedence over state laws. As such, a state may not pass a law inconsistent with the federal law. With LD 1343 the State intends to occupy and preempt the entire field of legislation concerning the regulation of a person's decision to terminate a pregnancy and legislation concerning the provision of abortion. While the Supreme Court has handed back the states jurisdiction over abortion this proposal has far and overreaching implications to all Mainers well beyond abortion.

At the state level, preemption occurs when a state statute conflicts with a local ordinance on the same subject matter. This gives the state another opportunity for an ideological power-grab. It starts with abortion and where does it end? More important LD 1343 preempts the *United State Standard Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy* and will no longer report current required information “the method used to perform the abortion; and the gestational age of the fetus at the time of the abortion”. This opens the door wide for abortion from conception to birth with no requirement to report it as it is today and ties neatly into LD 1619 that alleges privacy but truly does not have anything to do with privacy.

James Dux,

Searsport, Maine

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