

Senator Anne Carney, Representative Matt Moonan, and members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Cait Vaughan, and I am the Grassroots Organizer with Grandmothers for Reproductive Rights (GRR!), an education and advocacy organization led by grandmothers and elders dedicated to advancing reproductive health, rights and justice for present and future generations. GRR! was founded in Maine in 2013 and currently engages over 500 Maine activists across the state. I'm writing on behalf of GRR! in support of **LD1343: An Act to Protect the Reproductive Freedom of Maine People by Preempting the Field of Abortion Regulation.**

Time and again, Mainers have voted in favor of abortion access for Maine people. Across the country, we watch national and city elected officials bypass the will of the people to create biased, confusing, medically-inaccurate campaigns to restrict reproductive health care. In New Mexico, where abortion is legal, one city council was heavily influenced by an anti-abortion campaign directed by mostly out-of-state individuals and attempted to ban clinics in their town¹.

The confusion and chaos following the Dobbs decision, and the resulting patchwork of laws, has led to widespread confusion for pregnant individuals and providers. We do not want a repeat of this murky situation in a state where voters have repeatedly supported advancing abortion access. This bill protects Mainers from deceptive outside influences regarding reproductive health care and upholds state abortion law as the only laws capable of governing abortion. It is the right thing to do, and GRR! urges the committee to vote in support of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration,
Cait Vaughan & GRR!s across Maine

¹<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/supreme-court-considers-abortion-cases-local-governments-impos-e-bans-n1281999>