

Janet LeBlanc
Waterville
LD 494

Senator Carney and Representative Moonen, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Janet LeBlanc and I am a resident of Waterville. I am testifying in support of LD494, HP0311 An Act to Conform State Funding to the Federal Hyde Amendment, Limiting Funding for Some Abortion Services

Abortion is an elective medical procedure which the destruction of innocent human life in the womb takes place. It is NOT health care! Because abortion isn't health care it has no business being part of Maine Care! Forcing taxpayers to pay for abortion is reprehensible. On May 1, 2023, the Maine State House was initiated by several thousand Maine tax payers who took a stand for life. That was just a small sample of Mainers who oppose the destruction of innocent human life. It was a small sample of people who don't want their tax dollars used to pay for abortion. A better use for our tax dollars is to comprehensively assist women, children, and families in need. Our tax dollars should encourage childbirth and to provide women the tools they need to raise children in Maine.

Just as the federal Hyde Amendment prohibits federal Medicaid funding for abortions except for rape, incest or life endangerment Maine should prohibit Maine Care for funding abortions. Serving the elderly, our homeless and those with intellectual disabilities is a better use for our tax dollars. Maine is the oldest state in the nation, so more tax dollars should be used to assist the elderly. Our death rate is higher than our birth rate. Tax dollars should be used to encourage childbirth in Maine. The people of Maine are against abortion and shouldn't be forced to pay for it.