

Janet LeBlanc  
Waterville  
LD 1197

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 LD 1197.

Women will be empowered by the passing of LD 1197. It ensures pregnant women and pregnant minors are provided with all of the information they need to face their fears of being coerced into having an abortion.

This bill requires providers to provide information in writing and orally in a language the patient understands and in a manner the person understands. Ensuring pregnant women understand they have a right to withdraw consent for an abortion at any time and will receive a refund for the abortion not performed is extremely important.

LD 1197, empowers women by requiring providers to inform them that the law prohibits criminal threatening of any person, including a person who refuses to have an abortion. It also requires women to have contact information for providers of resources for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and much more.

This bill empowers women by requiring providers to inform women of the Maine Human Rights Act's protections against discrimination.

Women have a right to be given the information they need to empower them and allow them not to be victims.