

Lisa Savage  
Solon  
LD 780

I am writing in support of LD 780. As a teacher and literacy specialist in a low-income part of Maine, I witnessed the struggles of unwanted children born into dire poverty, often to teenage parents. Other students struggled throughout their preK-12 years due to substance use disorders or mental illness among the adults raising them. No child deserves to grow up like this. Pregnant women and underage girls who feel unable to carry a baby to term and to spend 18+ years raising the child must have access to safe medical abortion as part of their basic human rights. This will also protect the rights of unborn children to be nurtured rather than neglected, setting up an unending cycle of poverty.