

January 15, 2024

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

I am Katrin Teel of Glenburn, Maine. I am here to testify in opposition to L.D. 780, RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Protect Personal Reproductive Autonomy.

This proposed measure will create an unrestricted right to abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy by asserting a right to “personal reproductive autonomy” (a vague term, undefined here or anywhere else in Maine Revised Statutes). This is a dangerous path to follow as preborn children, and their mothers’ lives and health will be at greater risk if this measure is enshrined in the Maine Constitution. Furthermore, it is opposed by a majority of Americans. In a June 2023 Gallup Poll, 78% of the public do not favor abortions in the third trimester.

The passing of such a radical resolution to enshrine a right to end the lives of unborn children up until birth is reactive, irresponsible, unethical, and extremely dangerous. Toward that end, I strongly encourage you to vote no on L.D.780. Thank you for allowing me to contribute my testimony.