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LD 780

Senator Carney, Rep. Moonen, and the esteemed members of the Judiciary Committee, I am writing in support of LD 780 – “Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Protect Personal Reproductive Autonomy.”

I am writing as a father of two toddlers, a Mainer, and an independent voter to implore you to let the people of Maine have a voice on this issue. Although I cannot fathom having politicians and judges tell me what I can and can't do with my body, I am aware that many Mainers are totally fine stripping women of the right to bodily autonomy. We can disagree. But the great thing about a democracy is that the voters can ultimately decide. So, let the voters decide whether to amend Maine's constitution on this issue.

A vote against LD 780 is not a vote against ensuring basic healthcare access for women (although it is), it is really a vote for silencing Mainers. Put the issue on the ballot and let Maine voters decide. If a majority of voters want to uphold basic medical freedoms and bodily autonomy, then let it be. If a majority of voters want to leave women's healthcare up to politicians and judges instead of doctors, then so be it. This is too important of an issue to not let Maine voters weigh in.

Therefore, if you are thinking about voting “no” on LD 780, ask yourself, “what am I afraid of?” Are you afraid of Mainers voicing their opinions at the ballot box? Are you afraid your side will lose? Are you afraid that every single poll across the nation shows that a majority of voters favor protecting reproductive autonomy? Those are not valid reasons for voting against LD 780. Voting against LD 780 is a vote to deny Mainers a say on this issue.

Likewise, voting “yes” on LD 780 does not expand abortion access, it simply gives the people of Maine the chance to weigh in. Let Maine voters decide. Please pass LD 780.