

Colin Vettier
Portland
LD 780

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,
My name is Colin Vettier, I live in Portland, and I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 780.

For most of my life I have relied on my sexual partner to handle the birth control. Then, when the supreme court questioned Roe v Wade, I realize how much pressure there already is on women. How much we, as a society, put the burden of reproduction (or the absence thereof) entirely on women, and yet do not give them agency over their own body. We can't be bothered as men to take a pill, get something inserted in us, etc.

As soon as the decision was made official, I got a vasectomy. It's a little something that I could do to show support for all the women we (as a society) tell what they can or cannot do with their body, how they can do it, when etc.

For me, there is no freedom, no equality, no family value, unless everyone can have agency over their own body and in particular decide if, how and when they want to procreate.

- Basic rights shouldn't be up for debate every election year. A reproductive autonomy constitutional amendment would make sure that the rights Mainers have today will be protected in the future.
- Maine people deserve the opportunity to make their voices heard and affirm that the Maine state constitution protects reproductive rights.
- As elected leaders, lawmakers have an obligation to pass the so that all Maine voters can weigh in directly on this issue at the ballot box.
- Maine has strong laws protecting reproductive rights, but laws can be changed, and their fates can be determined from election to election. We need our state constitution to make it explicit that reproductive rights are fundamental human rights, and they aren't up for debate, regardless of the shifting political winds.
- Everyone should be able to make their own decisions about their reproductive healthcare and how, when, and if they decide to start a family. A reproductive autonomy amendment would explicitly enshrine Mainers' rights to do that in the state constitution.

Conclusion

Please vote Ought to Pass on LD 780. Thank you.