

Jay McCreight
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Testimony in Support of Ought to Pass on LD 780

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, esteemed members of the Judiciary Committee, I am Jay McCreight of Harpswell, and I submit this testimony in the strongest support of **LD 780, RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Protect Personal Reproductive Autonomy.**

I want to express my deep gratitude to Senator Eloise Vitelli for sponsoring this critically important proposal as well as to the co-sponsors and all others who have lent their support to this essential step for our state.

In my eight years serving in the Maine House of Representatives, I successfully proposed legislation each session to protect access to reproductive health care. All of these proposals, as well as others that successfully protect these rights both before and since, have helped make Maine a place where personal autonomy in reproductive care is recognized and supported by law.

The overturning of Roe v. Wade by the Supreme Court, however, has created a crisis requiring that we do more than this. Clearly all the progress we've made can be lost. Across the country we've seen peoples' rights to body autonomy eliminated by restrictions to access to all aspects of reproductive health care. These are rights that each individual is entitled to, not ones that judges or politicians can be allowed to destroy. What is needed now, to do all we can to ensure the security of these rights right now in Maine, is LD 780 which provides a path to a constitutional amendment.

It can not be overstated how important this proposal is to all of us. You, as legislators have the opportunity to support this Resolution so that the people of Maine will have their voices heard by having the opportunity to vote on an amendment to enshrine personal reproductive autonomy in our Maine Constitution.

I urge your support for this Resolution in the strongest possible terms.

Respectfully,

Jay McCreight