

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF LD 780

RESOLUTION: Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Protect Personal Reproductive Autonomy

Committee on Judiciary

January 22, 2024

In 1963, before Roe vs Wade, not only were abortions illegal, but a young female could also not get contraceptive care until she was married. Engagement did not count, only the marriage certificate did. Thus, honeymoon babies.

Luckily, I was not one of those girls. However, shortly thereafter I had a tubal pregnancy. I am ALIVE today because my local GP operated and saved my life by taking the pregnancy. I went on to have two fully functional and contributing children and grandchildren who have added to our population. No one reported me or threatened my doctor. He did what he had to do to save my life.

We are seeing a different story now in our country, though not in our state. But laws can change here in Maine, and we can quickly be back in those dark ages.

Please vote to secure the basic human rights of Maine families, as well as the medical community's right to freedom of treatment, and full spectrum obstetric and gynecologic care for women.

Thank you in advance for your support

Mary Rae Means, retired resident of Bristol Maine