

Samantha Gilligan
Belfast
LD 780

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Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Members of the Judiciary Committee, I am Samantha Gilligan, I live in Belfast, and I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 780.

I am the medical director and a family nurse practitioner at a community health center in Belfast. I provide comprehensive healthcare across the lifespan. On a daily basis, I talk with women about the importance of reproductive health and their decision to decide if and when they want to be pregnant – whether this is a sexually active teenager with aspirations to go to college, a young mother in recovery from opioid use disorder who already has 3 children at home and does not desire any more children, or a woman seeking counseling on getting pregnant for the first time.

It is imperative that women maintain access to all aspects of reproductive care – I fear that if this amendment is not voted through then we will be risking the loss of reproductive autonomy, potentially leading to unwanted pregnancies and increased pregnancy complications, thus putting Mainer's lives at risk and overwhelming a rural health system.

Please vote Ought to Pass on LD780. Thank you.