

Courtney Ampezzan
North Yarmouth
LD 780

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Regarding LD 780

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Members of the Judiciary Committee, I'm Courtney Ampezzan. I live in North Yarmouth and urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 780.

When I was studying abroad in Ireland in 2003, I remember there was a lot of news coverage surrounding access to abortion care. As a naive college student, I remember thinking, why is this even a question? Why were reproductive rights being discussed by politicians? Fast forward twenty years, and we are now having that discussion here? I am shocked, disgusted, and heartbroken.

Our friends and neighbors in other states are facing unbelievably cruel laws and restrictions regarding their reproductive rights. As Mainers, we should be very proud that we have strong laws protecting our reproductive rights. However, we need our state constitution to explicitly state that reproductive rights are fundamental human rights. We need to continue to ensure that the rights we have today will be protected in the future. Honestly, I can't even believe that this is even up for debate. Every person should have a right to reproductive autonomy, hard stop.

Please vote Ought to Pass on LD 780 to protect and enshrine personal and reproductive autonomy in the state of Maine.

Thank you.