



Grandmothers
For Reproductive Rights

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Senator Anne Carney, Representative Matt Moonen, and esteemed members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Cait Vaughan, and I am the interim executive director with Grandmothers for Reproductive Rights (GRR!), an organization that works, through education and advocacy, to secure access to sexual & reproductive health, rights and justice for present and future generations. GRR! voices strong support for LD 2084, **An Act to Provide Funding for Essential Services for Victims of Crimes**.

The services provided by sexual assault and domestic violence resource centers are essential to the recovery and well-being of victims, their families and entire communities. Many vulnerable people lack the resources to safely escape dangerous relationships and living situations and/or lack supportive family and community to recover from an experience of sexual or interpersonal violence. Due to the stigma and shame attached to intimate partner violence and sexual assault, many survivors find themselves in desperate need of resources, advocacy and help navigating legal systems surrounding their experiences and turning to local expert organizations for this critical and life-saving support. Providing the proper funding for victim services—especially in a case where federal support has been cut back—is an urgent statewide matter of protecting individual and public health. We must invest resources in sustaining the essential services provided by the centers under the umbrellas of Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MECASA) and the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence (MCEDV). **We urge you to vote Ought To Pass on LD 2084.**

Respectfully,

Cait Vaughan
Interim Executive Director

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