Isadora Newman Lewiston LD 163 Isadora Newman Bates College LD 163

Good afternoon members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services. Thank you for reading my testimony today.

My name is Isadora Newman and I am a student at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. I ask today that you support LD 163: An Act to Require Health Insurance Coverage for Federally Approved Nonprescription Oral Hormonal Contraceptives and Nonprescription Emergency Contraceptives.

LD 163 increases access to contraceptives by reducing their financial barrier, therefore empowering reproductive autonomy, economic mobility, and making reproductive health a right and not a privilege. People who cannot afford contraceptives cannot afford to have a baby, thus not only does this bill help support sexually active and pregnant people, but it reduces the number of children who will grow up in financial instability or poverty.

As a young female Mainer, I urge you to support LD 163: An Act to Require Health Insurance Coverage for Federally Approved Nonprescription Oral Hormonal Contraceptives and Nonprescription Emergency Contraceptives. Thank you for listening to the voices of those directly affected and those giving testimony.

Best, Isadora Newman