

Janis Hogan
Belfast
LD 143

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Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and Members of the Health and Human Services,

I am Janis Hogan of Belfast, Maine in support of LD 143. I am a retired nurse after 47 years, 21 of in school nursing.

School nursing is the first line of defense in our public health system for our school children in Maine. As a high school nurse, I worked to support the sexual health of students. Maine Family Planning is the cornerstone of health care for thousands of Maine residents including teens.

Many students, for a variety of reasons, want the confidential care that Maine Family Planning provides. From pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing to contraception, their services are so important to young people's short and long term health. Untreated STI's can lead to pelvic inflammatory disease and infertility. Unintended pregnancies can impact the trajectory of a student's life - often not finishing high school.

Maine Family Planning has essential health care regardless of health insurance and deserves our respect and support.

Please vote "ought to pass" for LD 143.