

Kathy Strand
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LD 143

I was 19 years old the first time I used a family planning clinic. I remember how all my questions about birth control options were answered with utmost care and not feeling I was just a number. This experience has stayed with me through the years –that I was able to get expert care at a clinic near where I lived at the time. So I was saddened and dismayed to recently read how Waldo is the first county in Maine with no maternity ward and that access to foundational family planning care is increasingly threatened across the state. I believe LD 143 is incredibly important in supporting Maine’s critical family planning care network with funding designated for providing the birth control, cancer screening, wellness exams and other essential healthcare needed by over 31,000 patients in the state who would otherwise be challenged by distance, cost or both in obtaining the care they need and deserve. I urge a vote of ought to pass.