



Chair Meyer and Chair Ingwersen and the distinguished members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Phoebe Dolan and I am the Co-Director of Maine Youth Power, we are a youth-led youth movement building power to win human dignity, equity, access and a livable future across rural and suburban Maine. I live in Belfast Maine, and I am here today in strong support of **LD143 An Act to Improve Women's Health and Economic Security by Funding Family Planning Services**

Family planning services and health care clinics like Maine Family planning, are absolutely essential to the health and well being of our rural communities in Maine. Myself and my community have benefited many times from having a place to receive care for all aspects of life that is affordable and close by. As young people, affordable healthcare is essential to our ability to thrive economically and socially in Maine. If youth are educated in the proper use of birth control and offered the correct supplies, they will not become parents before they are mature and ready.

As the federal protections for family planning services are disappearing and funding is at risk, Maine must invest in the health of its people and economic strength by providing funding to family planning clinics and providers. This fund, in the proposed legislation, secures access and a commitment to funding care for all Mainers who wish to access family planning which directly supports youth!

As a young person in rural Maine, I am asking this committee to please vote **ought to pass on LD143 An Act to Improve Women's Health and Economic Security by Funding Family Planning Services**. Young Mainers across the state have a right to good health and a future they desire, please help Maine keep leading.

Thank you for reading,
Phoebe Dolan