

Ella Tabasky
Brunswick
LD 143

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

My name is Ella Tabasky and I am a resident of Brunswick. I urge you to vote ought to pass on LD 143, a critical piece of legislation that ensures the protection of reproductive rights for the people of Maine.

Since the fall of *Roe v. Wade*, Maine voters have made their position clear. We have twice elected a pro-reproductive rights majority to our state legislature. In doing so, we have demonstrated our unwavering commitment to safeguarding reproductive healthcare access in our state. We, as a community, believe in the fundamental right of every individual to make decisions about their own bodies, including the right to access reproductive health care services.

However, we now find ourselves at a crossroads. The recent federal attacks on reproductive rights have only heightened the need for strong protections at the state level. These federal-level threats have created a new sense of urgency, and it is now more important than ever that you take decisive action to ensure that reproductive health care remains accessible and protected for all Mainers.

As a Maine resident, I have seen firsthand how critical access to reproductive health services is for the well-being and autonomy of individuals in our state. Whether it's for birth control, prenatal care, or abortion services, these are deeply personal and often life-altering decisions. We cannot afford to roll back these rights or allow the political landscape in other parts of the country to dictate the future of healthcare access here in Maine.

Voting ought to pass on LD 143 will send a clear message that Maine stands strong in its commitment to protect reproductive rights, regardless of what happens at the federal level. Our state has always been a leader in ensuring that its residents have access to comprehensive health care, and we must continue to uphold these values.

Please vote in favor of this bill to protect the rights and health of all Mainers. Thank you for your time and consideration.