



March 24th, 2025

Testimony in support of LD 94: An Act to Eliminate Miscarriage Reporting Requirements

Good Afternoon Representative Meyer, Senator Ingwersen, and members of the Committees on Health and Human Services.

My name is Aluel Athian, and I'm a college student in Maine. I'm also a Legislative Fellow at Maine Youth Power, a youth-led movement fighting for human dignity and a livable future for all of Maine.

I urge you to support this bill to Eliminate Miscarriage Reporting Requirements. The current practice of tracking abortions and miscarriages represents an oppressive and invasive level of surveillance over women's reproductive health. This kind of data collection creates a dangerous pathway for the criminalization of pregnancy outcomes, as we've seen in Texas.

Reproductive health is inherently dangerous by nature and those dangers are exacerbated due to social and systemic misogyny. Pregnant women are at an increased risk of domestic violence, with homicide being the leading cause of death for pregnant women in the United States. Rather than surveilling, restricting, or criminalizing access to abortion or other reproductive healthcare, we must create a system that prioritizes women's safety and full autonomy. Women should not have to navigate the dual burdens of societal violence and institutional control when making private decisions about their bodies and lives.

By passing this bill, Maine can take a small step for women's rights, privacy, and dignity. I urge you to support this legislation.

Thank You for your time,

Aluel Athian