

Subject: H.P. 654/LD 1007 Forces Doctors to Lie—Withdraw This Dangerous Bill

Dear Representative Paul, Senator Haggan, and Cosponsors (Representatives Collins, Griffin, Haggan, Javner, Quint; Senator Martin):

I am writing in vehement opposition to **H.P. 654/LD 1007**, a bill that would **force Maine doctors to lie to patients** about so-called "abortion reversal"—a **medically fraudulent and potentially deadly** practice. This legislation is not just unethical; it violates medical standards, endangers patients, and exposes the state to costly legal challenges. Here's why you must withdraw it immediately:

1. The "Abortion Reversal" Myth is Medically Debunked

- **Section 1(A)(1-2)** requires providers to tell patients that abortion pills can be "reversed," despite:
 - **ACOG's clear stance:** *"Claims of abortion 'reversal' are not based on science and do not meet clinical standards."*
 - **The only clinical trial** was **halted in 2019** due to severe hemorrhaging in participants.
 - **No major medical organization** (AMA, WHO, Maine Medical Association) supports this claim.
- **Section 1(B)** mandates directing patients to an anti-abortion "helpline" (run by groups like **Heartbeat International**), which:
 - Pushes unproven, high-dose progesterone regimens.
 - **Does not provide emergency care** for complications.

2. This Bill Violates Medical Ethics and Free Speech

- **Forcing doctors to spread misinformation** violates their **First Amendment rights** and **medical licensing requirements** to provide evidence-based care.
- Similar laws were **blocked in Kansas, Indiana, and Tennessee** for being "misleading" and "unconstitutional."

3. It Targets Vulnerable Mainers

- **Rural patients** (e.g., **Oxford County, Sen. Martin's district**) already face **obstetric deserts**. Delaying care to seek "reversal" risks:
 - **Incomplete abortions** (infection risk).
 - **Hemorrhage** (from unregulated progesterone use).

- **Low-income Mainers** (e.g., **Rep. Javner's Chester district**) cannot afford unnecessary follow-up visits for a sham treatment.

District-Specific Accountability

- **Rep. Paul (Winterport)**: Your district has **no abortion providers**. Why are you pushing a bill that will force patients to travel farther for care?
- **Sen. Haggan (Penobscot)**: Northern Light Health in Bangor serves your rural constituents. This law will **tie their doctors' hands**.
- **Rep. Griffin (Levant)**: After cosponsoring **HP 635's total ban**, you're now mandating **state-sponsored quackery**.

Demand for Accountability

Cite one peer-reviewed study proving 'abortion reversal' is safe or effective. Name one medical board that supports forcing doctors to lie. If you cannot, withdraw this bill immediately.

Sincerely,

Mark Pelusi

Bradley, Maine