

March 27, 2025

Paula Drouin
Auburn
LD253

Testimony of Paula Drouin in Opposition of LD 253 An Act to Prevent the MaineCare Program from Covering Abortion Services

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Paula Drouin, resident of Auburn, Androscoggin County. Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to oppose LD 253 An Act to Prevent the MaineCare Program from Covering Abortion Services

This bill is similar to other bills being heard today, and my argument is the same. Access to safe abortion is a component of comprehensive health care; therefore, if an individual utilizes MaineCare, abortion services should be covered.

1 in 4 women will get an abortion by age 45. Reasons include: for the sake of the mother's health; where a pregnancy is the result of a crime such as rape, incest, or child abuse; where the child would have poor quality of life such as serious genetic problems; and social reasons, including poverty. Sometimes the decision is simple, and sometimes it is complicated. Either way, it is a personal decision that every individual should have the right to make for themselves.

I urge you to vote "ought not to pass".

Please uphold healthcare. Please trust and protect women.