

Testimony of Amy Strum in Opposition of LD 975
“An Act To Repeal Laws Allowing Abortion and to Criminalize
Abortion”

Good day **Senator Anne Carney and Representative Amy Kuhn and members of the Judiciary Committee.**

LD 975 another attempt to control reproductive rights. I strongly oppose this and any other legislation that interferes with personal healthcare decisions that are always difficult and should be made between a patient and a healthcare provider. The following are some of the rationals for my opposition to LD 975:

Bodily Autonomy: Individuals, especially women, have the right to make decisions about their own bodies, including reproductive choices.

- **Reproductive Freedom:** Access to abortion is seen as crucial for individuals to control their fertility and make choices about family size and timing, which is essential for personal and economic freedom.
- **Health and Safety:** Restricting abortion access can lead to unsafe abortions and increased maternal mortality, especially in areas with limited access to safe medical care.
- **Social and Economic Factors:** For some, abortion access is seen as vital for women's ability to pursue education, careers, and achieve economic independence.
- **Equality and Justice:** Restricting abortion access disproportionately affects marginalized communities and undermines gender equality.

If those who morally believe in the 'right to life' truly live their lives' according to this principle why is it that they can stand by as life saving nutrition, healthcare and medicine is actively being withheld do to the intentional disassembling of USAID? An estimateed 2.3 million children in low and middle income countries could and are losing access to life-saving treatments for severe acute malnutrition. This would lead to 369,000 extra child deaths a year that otherwise have been prevented. These children have been born and this is what murder truly is.