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LD 253

Members of the committee, thank you for the chance to provide my testimony. My name is Emily Biedrzycki and I am a resident of Topsham. I'm writing today to urge you to uphold the right to safe and legal abortion access. As a woman and mother I believe this is not only a fundamental human right, but a matter of public health and individual autonomy.

My testimony today is rooted in my unwavering belief in bodily autonomy. Every person, regardless of their age, background, or circumstances, must have the right to make informed decisions about their own bodies and future. Limiting access to safe and legal abortion not only infringes on these rights, but can also lead to devastating consequences for individuals, families, and communities. To deny someone this right is to deny their agency and their future.

Denial of abortion access often leads to increased maternal mortality, economic hardship, and decreased educational opportunities for women. It also burdens families who cannot afford to support a child, and increases the rate of children in poverty.

We have seen in states with restrictive abortion laws women dying from lack of care, and families losing the precious women they love. We cannot allow this to happen in Maine.

I urge this committee to consider the many voices advocating for abortion access and reject measures that could undermine the reproductive health and well-being of residents. Let's stand firm in upholding the right to safe and legal abortion access for all.