

Moss Handelman
Freeport
LD 975

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My name is Moss Handelman and I am a junior at Freeport High School, as well as a young woman. I am testifying on the bills that would criminalize abortion.

I am growing up female during a time where many aspects of the future are uncertain. I cannot imagine if an event happened to me that caused me to be pregnant, and if I had to give birth. I know that having to carry a pregnancy to full term would upend my life as well as the lives of my loved ones. I am young and it would not be fair to myself or any child if I had to raise it. It is frightening to live at a time when my personal health could be affected so greatly. I am in a privileged place where I would have support but I know many of my peers would not have support if they were raped or became pregnant. I have multiple women in my life whom I love and look up to and who would not be the thriving people they are today if they had not had access to abortion.

I am sharing my feelings on this crucial matter because I want to convey how it is both terrifying and unfair to anyone who may become pregnant to be forced to carry the pregnancy to term. There are dangerous health aspects for both the pregnant person and the baby if it were born. Criminalizing abortion can often lead to financial struggles and abuse for all parties involved. Abortion is necessary for a safe and healthy population.

I implore you not to vote to criminalize abortion and instead to sustain abortion's legality. Abortion is imperative to a happy, healthy, and safe society.

Thank you for considering this matter. Your time is much appreciated.