

Magdalena Escudero-Kane
Brunswick
LD 975

Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, Members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Magdalena Escudero-Kane, I live in Brunswick. I am writing today in strong opposition to LD 975, An Act to Repeal Laws Allowing Abortion and to Criminalize Abortion. This legislation is a direct attack on the fundamental rights of Mainers, stripping away the bodily autonomy of women and pregnant people and putting their health and lives at risk. If enacted, this bill would have devastating consequences for individuals, families, and communities across the state.

The right to make personal medical decisions, including the choice to have an abortion, is essential to the health, dignity, and equality of all Mainers. Criminalizing abortion will not stop it from happening—it will only make it more dangerous. History and research show that in places where abortion is illegal, people still seek to end pregnancies, often in unsafe conditions that put their lives in jeopardy. LD 975 would force people to carry pregnancies against their will, regardless of their personal circumstances, health risks, or ability to care for a child. It would disproportionately harm low-income individuals, survivors of domestic violence, and those facing medical complications.

Beyond the personal impact, this bill would be a disaster for Maine as a whole. At a time when our state is struggling with healthcare access and provider shortages, LD 975 would create an even greater crisis by criminalizing doctors for providing essential care. It would drive medical professionals away from Maine, making it harder for everyone to access reproductive healthcare. Additionally, forcing people to give birth against their will would lead to more families struggling financially, more children growing up in unstable conditions, and increased strain on our already overburdened social services.

Maine has long been a place where personal freedoms are respected, where people are trusted to make their own medical decisions, and where families are supported, not punished. LD 975 is a cruel and dangerous step backward. I urge you to reject this bill and stand up for the rights, health, and well-being of all Mainers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Magdalena Escudero-Kane