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My name is Dylan Martin, and I am in opposition to bills being presented today that would restrict or even criminalize abortion services in Maine.

The reason is simple: the restriction or outright prohibition of abortion services kills people, namely women and other birthing people.

Anti-abortion advocates believe that they will save the lives of babies by doing this, but we have seen in states where abortion is made illegal or restricted that you are actually killing those who can and, in some or many cases, those who want to bring life into this world.

You are not just targeting those who get pregnant accidentally and want an abortion as a result. You are targeting those who want to have babies but who then experience complications that sometimes require medical intervention, including abortion, to save their life, so that maybe they can try again after moving past the heartbreak and trauma of such an experience.

Take the example of Nevaeh Crain, an 18-year-old woman in Texas who was pregnant with her first child and dreamt about the little dresses her future daughter would wear. But after she got sick, feverish and vomiting as blood stained her thighs, doctor refused to act quickly and move her to intensive care multiple times because they were more concerned with the health of the fetus, as ProPublica reported last November. Hours after her third visit to the hospital, Nevaeh was dead along with her unborn baby.

What this shows is that anti-abortion laws threaten so many people around us, your wife, your daughter, your cousin, your neighbor, your granddaughter, the people you buy food from, anyone who is capable of giving birth. And for the female legislators supporting anti-abortion measures, you're potentially putting yourself in harm's way, even if you think, "no way, I would never end up in a situation like this." I'm sure Nevaeh never thought she would too.